

B-13

C40B E - APRIL 21-1925-

KEG OF RUM CARRIED BY MEDFORD MINUTEMEN

New Organization Inspected and Complimented by Gen Pershing During Parade

MEDFORD, April 21—Perhaps the proudest outfit that marched in Lexington yesterday was the Medford Minutemen Company of 1925. It was their very first parade, in their first year of organization, and they were inspected at their first assembly by Gen John J. Pershing himself, inspected and complimented by the General.

Ten thousand enthusiastic Medford folks inspected the new Minutemen Company as it marched through town for the Lexington rendezvous. And in the big parade, the little Medford unit was one of the most picturesque outfits.

The Minutemen Company were 59, impersonating the 59 Medford men of '75, whom Capt Isaac Hall led against the British. F. Derby Hall, a sergeant in the 3d Pioneers in France, and a direct descendant of Capt Isaac Hall, led the company. His ancestor was a distiller. Indeed, Medford tradition is divided as to whether Paul Revere, making his first stop on that memorable ride at Capt Hall's house, paused to warn the local leader, or to refresh himself at the captain's bar.

Keg of Medford Rum

However that may be, a feature of the Medford Minute Men's turnout yesterday was a keg of Medford rum with an old fashioned dipper on top of it, hauled by a rope from the shoulders of Merchant H. Syewart Jr. The keg was contributed by Elmer A. Mitchell of 8 Maple st, and painted at each end by Patrick J. Dennehy, president of Div 4, Ancient Order of Hibernians, with the lettering,

Old Medford
XXXXX
1775

The keg made a distinct hit with the crowd in Medford and also in Lexington. During the two-hour delay for the parade to start, the shivering crowd chafed the Medford Minute Man about the closed keg. "Why don't you open it and warm up?"

Another feature of the Medford line was a Sioux Indian riding a black and white Missouri pinto at the head of the company. It was Sergt Frank E. Brewster, one time orderly of Pershing, old Indian fighter and Mexican border trooper.

Dennehy led the line with the shield of "The Medford Minute Men of 1775." His color guard were John Wynne, secretary, Ancient Order of Hibernians, who carried a Revolutionary flintlock belonging to the Brooks family of West

Medford, and Lloyd Johnson, a Spanish War Veteran, whose musket had an old time pike on it.

Mrs Fuller Pleased

The keg came next in line, and then the committee of safety, Charles T. Daley, chairman of the Minutemen committee; Pres Herbert N. Ackerman of the Medford Historical Society, Everett W. Stone, chairman of the Patriots' Day citizens' committee, and Benjamin B. Osthus, superintendent of the Medford Postoffice.

Two drummers and two fifers followed playing "Yankee Doodle," "The Top of the World Is Upside Down," "The White Cockade," and other Revolutionary airs.

The company followed with its officers, Capt Hall, Lieut Frank E. Abbott, who is commander of the Gen S. C. Lawrence Camp, Spanish War Veterans, and Ensign John J. Hayes, commander of the Medford Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The company sergeants were Frank Mason, John J. Maginis, and John Mather. Every man in line had a powder horn, the only complete complement in the parade.

Mrs Alvan T. Fuller, who was a Medford girl, greeted the Medford company with enthusiasm when it passed the reviewing stand. More than 5000 people watched Pershing inspect the company in Medford during his 40 minutes' wait there. Mayor Richard B. Coolidge of Medford and Mayor Curley accompanied him. The Medford company marched from the old Hall house on High st to Weir Bridge, where they took trucks for Lexington.

FIRE COMMISSIONER GUEST OF GALWAY FOOTBALL CLUB

Fire Commissioner Glynn was the guest of honor, last evening at the annual ball of the Galway Football Club in Hibernian Hall, Roxbury, last evening. The commissioner highly praised the club for its achievements and predicted greater honors for it.

A fine concert and dancing program was carried out, under the direction of Bernard F. Fahey, chairman of the ball committee, assisted by Martin J. Kelly, Michael J. Hannon, Thomas Cooney, John J. Kelly, James Mitchell, Martin Wallace, Joseph Fahey, Thomas Gleason, Peter Flaherty, Joseph Culinan, Michael Horgan, Martin Conway, Martin Kelly, Michael Lally, Lally, Michael Dacey, Thomas Hoar, Patrick Duffin, Patrick McCauley, Lawrence Cronin, John Mulloney, William Coney, Frank Judge, Thomas F. Flaherty, John B. Grady, John J. Mullowney, John J. Murray and Patrick Walsh.

GLOBE - APRIL 21 - 1925

LEXINGTON—1775

Written by John Greenleaf Whittier For
100th Anniversary

1

No maddening thirst for blood had they,
No battle-joy was theirs who set
Against the alien bayonet
Their homespun breasts in that old day.

2

Their feet had trodden peaceful ways,
They loved not strife, they dreaded pain;
They saw not, what to us is plain,
That God would make man's wrath his praise.

3

No seers were they, but simple men:
Its vast results the future hid;
The meaning of the work they did
Was strange and dark and doubtful then.

4

Swift as the summons came they, left
The plough, mid-furrow, standing still,
The half-ground corn-grist in the mill,
The spade in earth, the axe in cleft.

5

They went where duty seemed to call;
They scarcely asked the reason why:
They only knew they could but die,
And death was not the worst of all.

6

Of man for man the sacrifice,
Unstained by blood, save theirs, they gave.
The flowers that blossomed from their grave
Have sown themselves beneath all skies.

7

Their death-shot shook the feudal tower,
And shattered slavery's chain as well:
On the sky's dome, as on a bell,
Its echo struck the world's great hour.

8

That fateful echo is not dumb;
The Nations, listening to its sound,
Wait, from a century's vantage-ground,
The holier triumphs yet to come—

9

The bridal time of Law and Love,
The gladness of the world's release,
When, war-sick, at the feet of Peace
The hawk shall nestle with the dove.

10

The golden age of brotherhood,
Unknown to other rivalries
Than of the mild humanities
And gracious interchange of good.

11

When closer strand shall lean to strand,
Till meet, beneath saluting flags,
The eagle of our mountain crags,
The lion of our Mother-land.

GLOBE - APR 14 - 21 - 1925



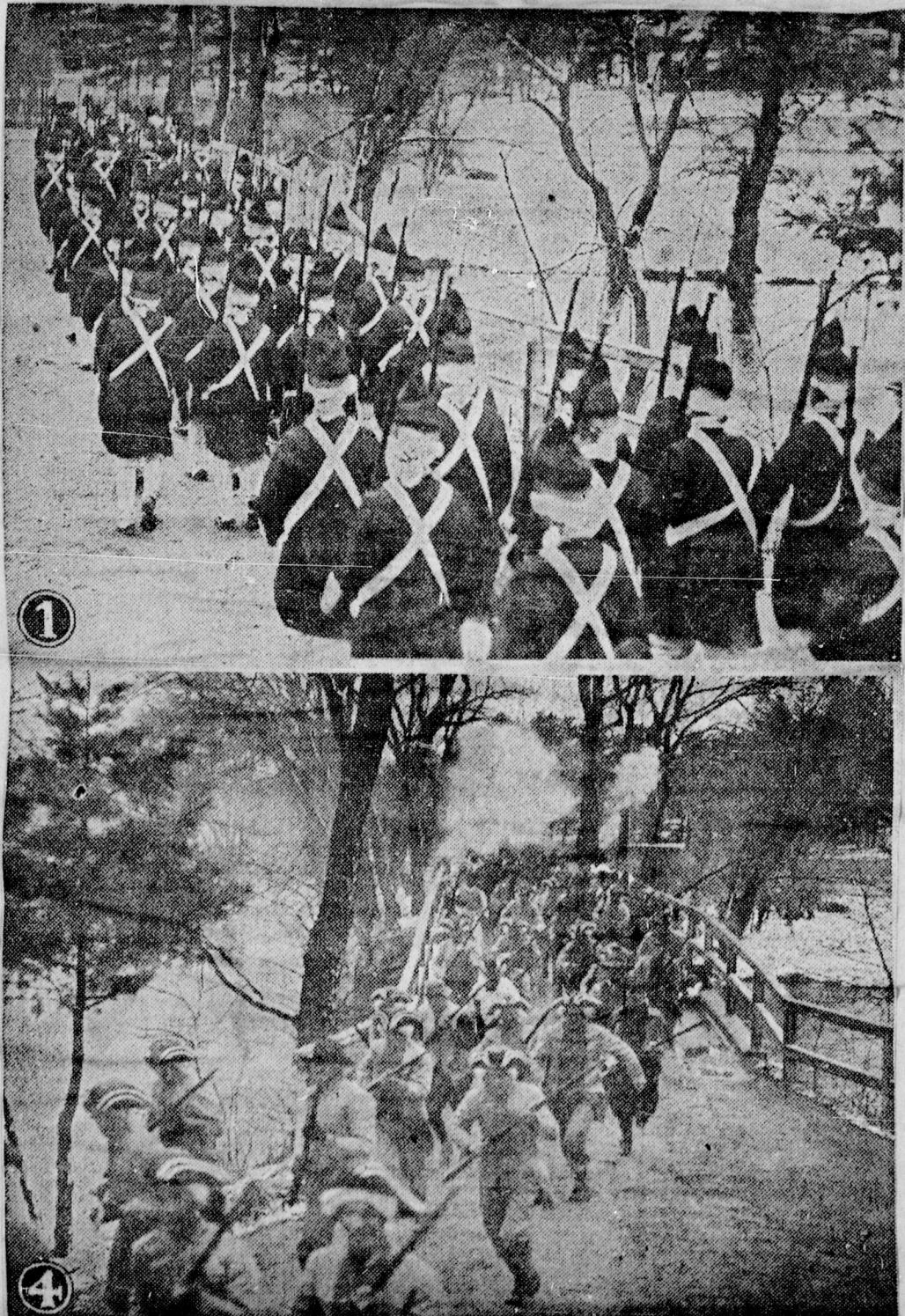
MASSED COLORS OF THE UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS

GLOBE - APRIL 21-1925



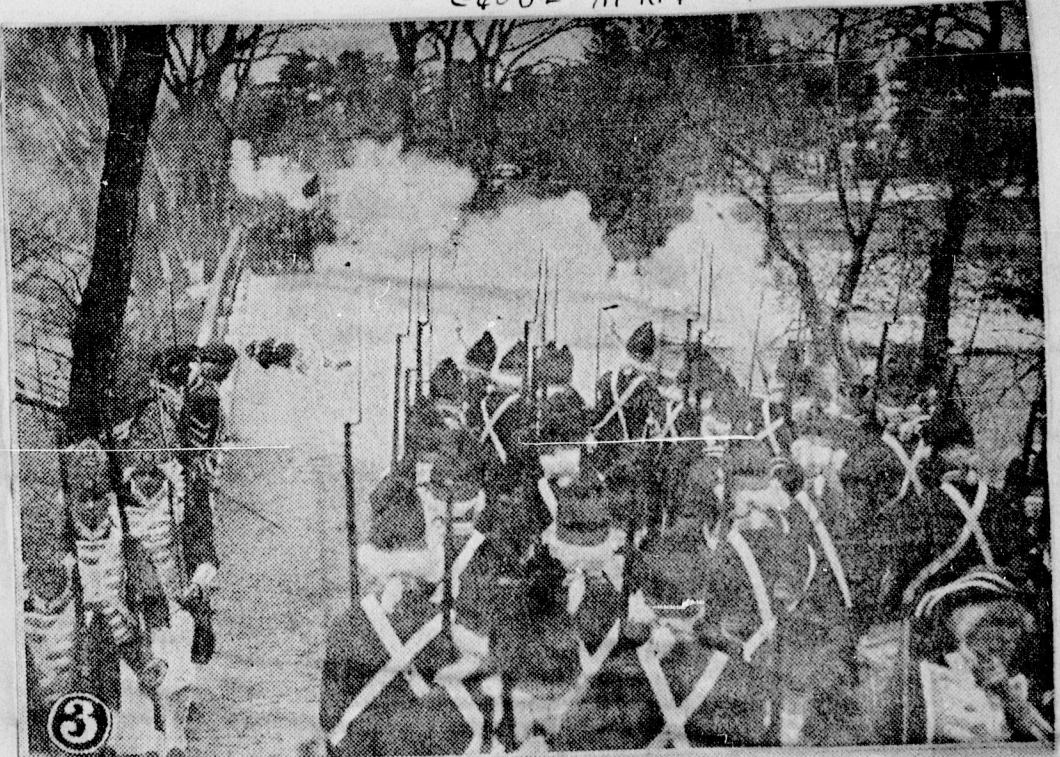
2—ATTEMPT TO DESTROY BRIDGE BEFORE MINUTE MEN ARRIVE.
5—COLONIALS PURSUE THE REDCOATS.

GLOBE - APR 14 - 24 - 1925



1—THE BRITISH GUARD MARCHES INTO POSITION BEYOND THE BRIDGE.
MINUTE MEN. 4—MINUTE MEN VICTORIOUS.

GLOBE - APR 14 - 21-1925



3—"FIRE!" BRITISH STAND OFF

6—THE FIGHT IS OVER.

C40 AE - APR 16 - 21 - 1925

FLAG CARRIED AT FIGHT IN 1775 NOW OWNED BY TOWN OF BEDFORD



THIS FLAG WAS CARRIED
AT CONCORD APRIL 19, 1775.
BY THE MEN FROM BEDFORD
ON EXHIBITION IN BEDFORD TOWN HALL FROM 12-6

CARRIED IN AUTO IN PARADE AT CONCORD

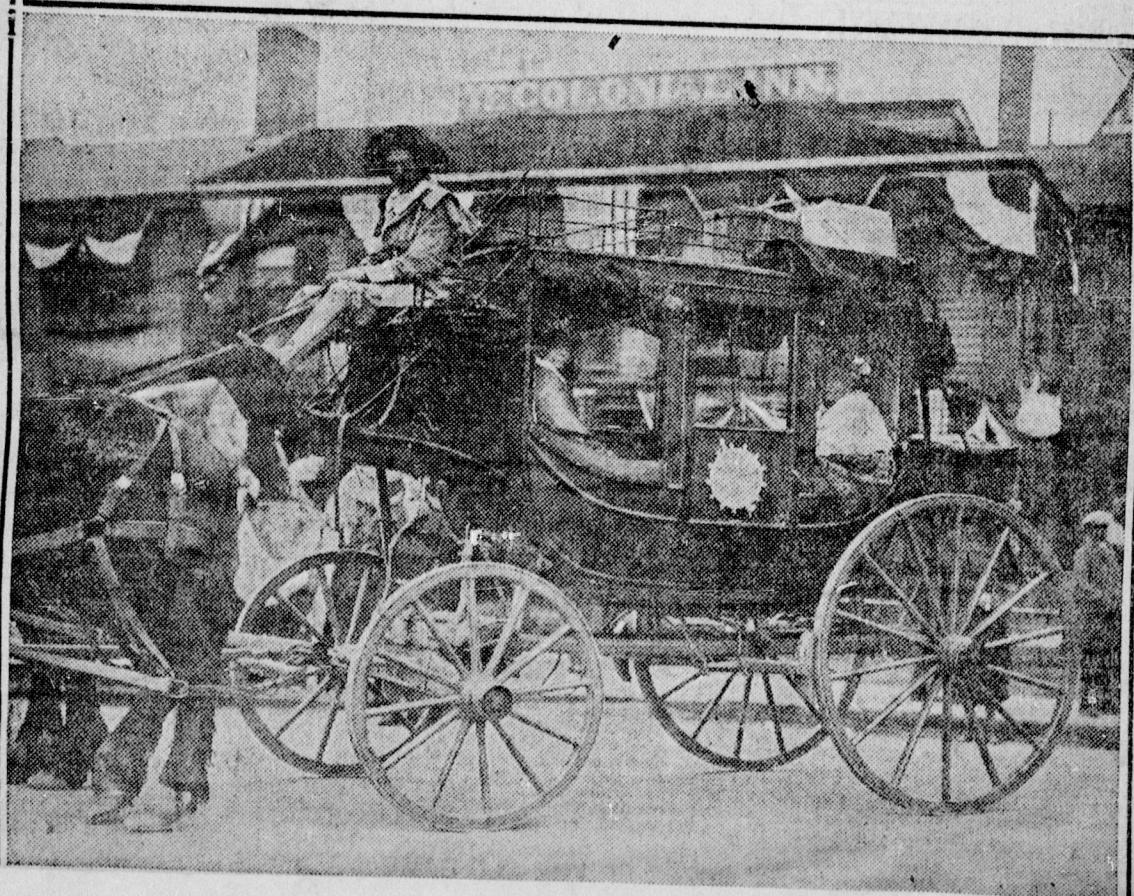
GLOBE - APRIL 21 - 1925

ODD COSTUMES OF MINUTE MEN SUMMONED FROM HOMES TO FIGHT



GLOBE - APRIL 21 - 1925

STAGE COACH OF OLD BOSTON LINE, FEATURE OF PARADE AT CONCORD



GLOBE - APRIL 21 - 1921

ACTION MINUTE MEN CROSS BRIDGE, LEADING COLONIAL GROUP IN MARCH



GLOBE - APRIL 21-1925.



"FIGHT AT THE OLD BRIDGE"

Float of Corinthian Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; British Regulars at Right, Minutemen at Left

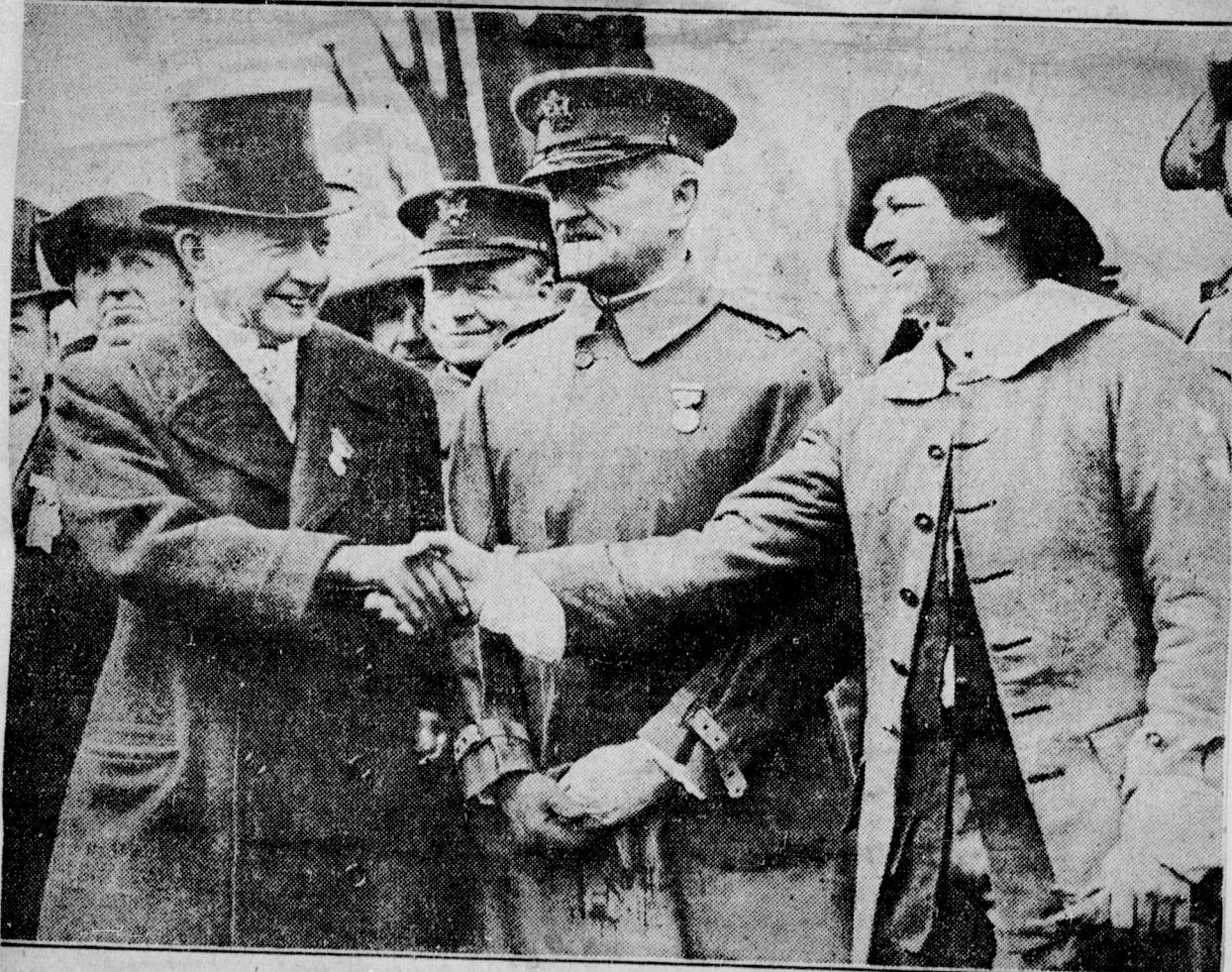
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DIVISION 56, ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, OF CONCORD, DRESSED IN COLONIAL COSTUME, PASSING THROUGH MONUMENT SQ

C408E - APR 14 - 1925.

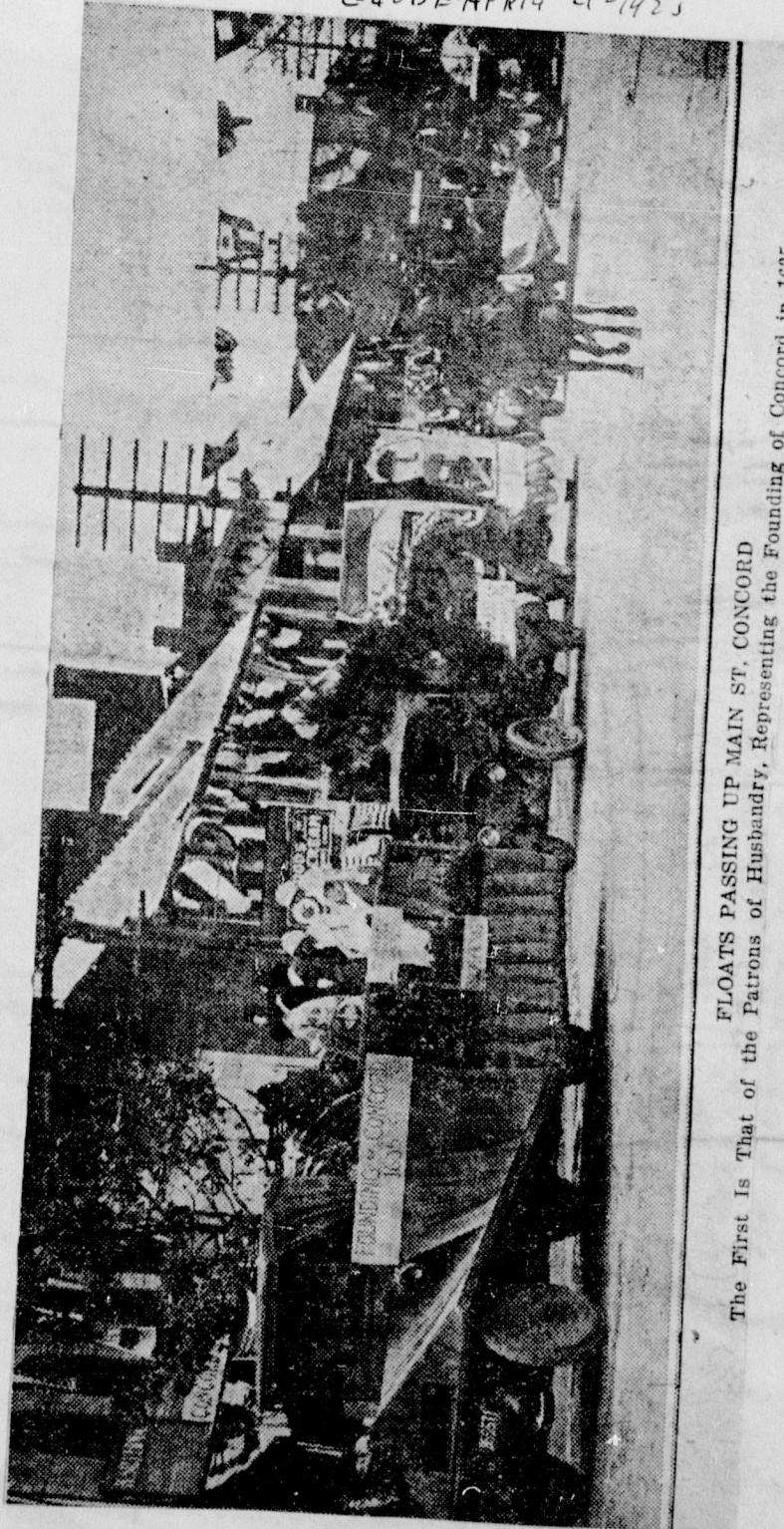
When Dawes Meets Dawes



The Vice President and General Pershing Greet Sergeant Harold I. Slocumb Impersonating William Dawes, Jr.

(Transcript Photo by Col

GLOBE-APR 14-21-1925



FLOATS PASSING UP MAIN ST, CONCORD
The First Is That of the Patrons of Husbandry, Representing the Founding of Concord in 1635

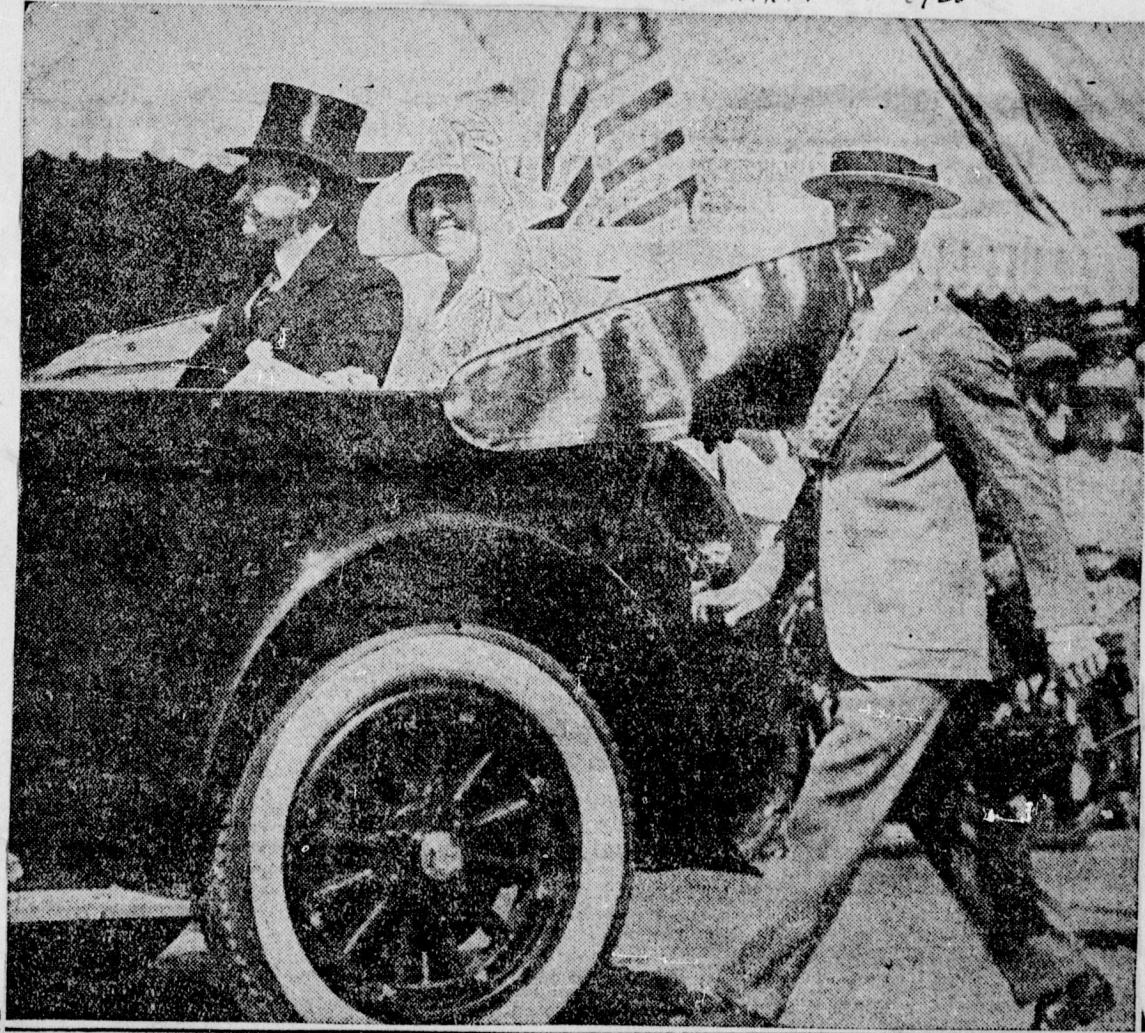
HERALD - APRIL 21-1925



Paul Revere (Left) and William Dawes, Jr., the Two Riders, Meet at Lexington. Master Sergeant Harold L. Philbrick, Troop A, 110th Cavalry, National Guards, Impersonated Paul Revere, While Harold I. Slocomb, Troop A, 110th Cavalry, National Guards, Played the Part of Dawes.

(Leslie Jones)

HERALD - APRIL 21 - 1925.



WITH MRS COOLIDGE ESPECIALLY, IT WAS A CASE OF ALMOST INCESSANT HAND-WAVING, IN GRACIOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPLAUSE, ALONG THE ENTIRE LINE OF MARCH

CHIEF OF CELEBRATION AT CONCORD IN 1875

HERALD -
APRIL 21 - 1925.



Henry Hall, Chairman of Selectmen in 1875, (at right) with Henry A. Smith



IN PARADE AT CONCORD
Left to right, A. S. Lowden, Arthur D. Blanchard, George H. Reed,
W. A. Flint, D. F. Newton.

MODERN HEROES OF BIG APRIL 19 CELEBRATION

Two Organizations Had Tough Time—Clothing Soaked, Stiff With Cold, They March

Now that the 1925 battle and celebration of Concord and Lexington is a matter of cold history, it is fitting that a few bouquets be thrown in the way of those who braved the inclement weather, to participate in the ceremonies.

Every man, woman and child in the line of march, both at Lexington and Concord, from the colonial dame, clad in a thin, antiquated gown, to the Scotch Highlander whose purpled knees suffered exquisite punishment where the kilts left off, are entitled to wound stripes, battle clasps and thousands of other commendations for bravery.

But of these who endured the blasts and rain of the holiday weather there were two organizations that deserve all the above commendations and a few more besides.

En route for Concord from the Commonwealth Armory, Allston, Troop C, 110th Cavalry, and Battery A of the 101st Field Artillery received the full benefit of the April shower that descended late Sunday afternoon. Arriving at Concord the equipment of both organizations, that had been industriously shined for the occasion, presented a sorry appearance. The men's clothes were soaking, and the horses were enveloped in individual clouds of steam.

The artillery horses were stabled in the carriage shed at the rear of the First Parish Unitarian Church in Concord Center. The men, who were prepared to sleep in small tents, were in a sad predicament until the local Legion members, seeing their condition, preferred the use of their comfortable clubhouse.

The cavalry horses were picketed outside the Concord Armory, while the cavalrymen were quartered in the Armory. Although sleeping indoors on a night like Sunday has its benefits, sleeping on a concrete floor with the thickness of one blanket to rest on, is bound to harden any man.

In Frozen Clothes

It was an easy matter for the men of both organizations to remove their clothing, but when it came to dressing in the morning, shoes that were a good fit the day before had shrunk two sizes smaller, and damp clothes were never known to give any one pleasure.

But they got them finally on, and the parade started. Well, the caisson men sat on their guns with their arms folded and many remarked how erect and steady they sat, but they didn't know that the damp clothes had frozen, and maybe the fellows couldn't move anyway.

During the night several artillery horses, urged on by the two-inch snowfall, decided that to keep moving was better than standing in a shed at the

moved. Two were badly injured, and had to be shot while another had an eye put out and two more suffered minor injuries.

Returning to the armory late last night one of the cavalry horses reared up and fell on his rider, who was taken to the Symmes Hospital, where it was feared he had suffered a broken leg. The injured man is George E. Nelson, and this morning he is reported as resting comfortably at the hospital.

In all their difficulties the men of both organizations handled themselves well, and their efforts in the two parades were excellent performances. The cavalry troop was commanded by Capt Philip L. Brown and the artillery by Capt Theodore L. Storer.

MILITARY BALL ENDS BIG CELEBRATION

Grand March at Concord Led by Gen Bullard

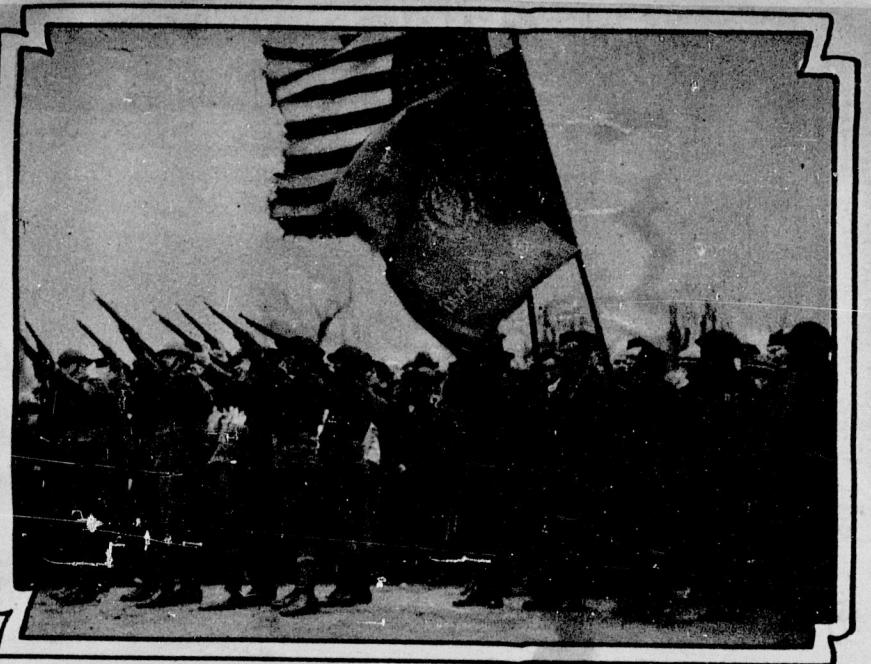
CONCORD, Mass., April 21—Concord's celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Concord fight was brought to a brilliant close last evening with a largely-attended military ball in the State Armory. A number of the town's distinguished guests of the day remained during the evening to attend the ball.

The Aleppo Band played the concert program, after which the grand march was formed, it being led by Gen Bullard. Many Concord men and women at the ball wore the provincial costumes of the 1775 period. A buffet supper was served in the basement of the armory. About 1000 persons attended the ball.

Henry J. Coolidge was chairman of the ball committee, which included Julian W. Ballou, William B. Bartlett, Wells Blanchard, Prentice W. Blood, Frederic H. Chase, Wallace B. Conant, Kennan Damon, Howard B. Daniels, Michael J. Dee, Benjamin Derby, Ronald M. Ferry, Philip T. Flavin, Walter N. Haw, Elmer L. Joslin, Edward F. Loughlin, John W. Mara, Bernard W. McGrath, George F. A. Mulcahy, John J. Mullaney, Edward L. Parker, Burleigh L. Pratt, Russell Robb Jr., Henry S. Thompson and Berkeley Wheeler.

The reception committee was made up of Benjamin Derby (chairman), James L. Adams, John H. Adams, John C. Anderson, Joseph M. M. Appleby, Fred C. Baker, John M. Bruce, Stedman Buttrick, Thomas J. Byron, John J. Conorton, Kennan Damon, Philip A. Davis, John J. Dee, C. Fred Edgerton, John E. Hannon, Walter N. Haw, Gordon Hutchins, Fred R. Jones, Charles T. Judge, John F. Killoren, Waldo P. Lapham, Gardner W. Lawrence, John B. Lynch, Arthur A. Magurn, Edward McNamee, Francis McNamee, Benjamin

HERALD - APRIL 21 - 1925



Members of the Cambridge American Legion Fire a Salute to Vice-President Dawes at Harvard Square, Cambridge.
(Leslie Jones)



Left to Right—Vice-President Dawes; General Pershing; Miss Alice Blake, Who Sold Lexington Half Dollars; William Dawes, Jr., and Paul Revere. General Pershing Told the Photographers That He Would Be Willing to Pose All Day with Such a Pretty Girl, and That the Only One in the Party Who Would Be Jealous Would Be Vice-President Dawes. Hence the Laughter.



The Start of the Battle of Old North Bridge, Concord. The British Grenadiers Are in the Foreground; Across the Bridge Are the Minute-Men. The Re-Enactment of This Battle Furnished, Perhaps, the Greatest Thrill of the Day's Celebration.

HERALD - APRIL 12, 1975

HERALD - APR 14 - 21 - 1925



The Minute-Men Pursue the Retreating Redcoats Over Old North Bridge, Concord. Two of the British Dead Are Left Behind on the Bridge. Members of the 101st Engineers Staged This Battle, Impersonating Both the Yankees and the Redcoats.
(Alfred Brust)



Dawes Coming Into Lexington After His Ride from Eliot Square, Roxbury.

(Leslie Jones)

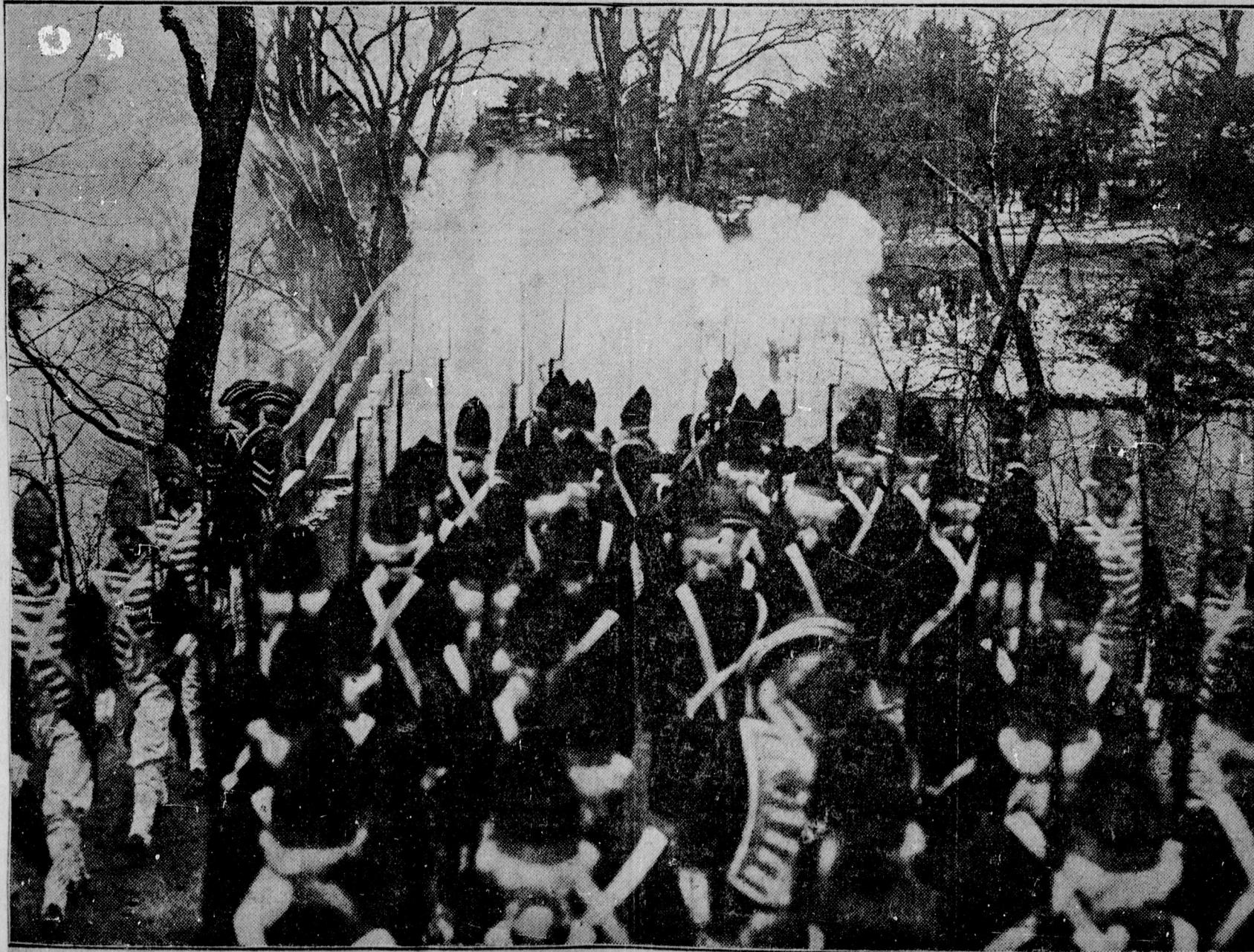


Ezra Breed, Commander of the Lexington Minute-Men, Greets Paul Revere on His Arrival at Lexington.

(A. H. Waldron)

HERALD - APRIL 17 - 1921

Front Line to the Rear as the Farmers Advance

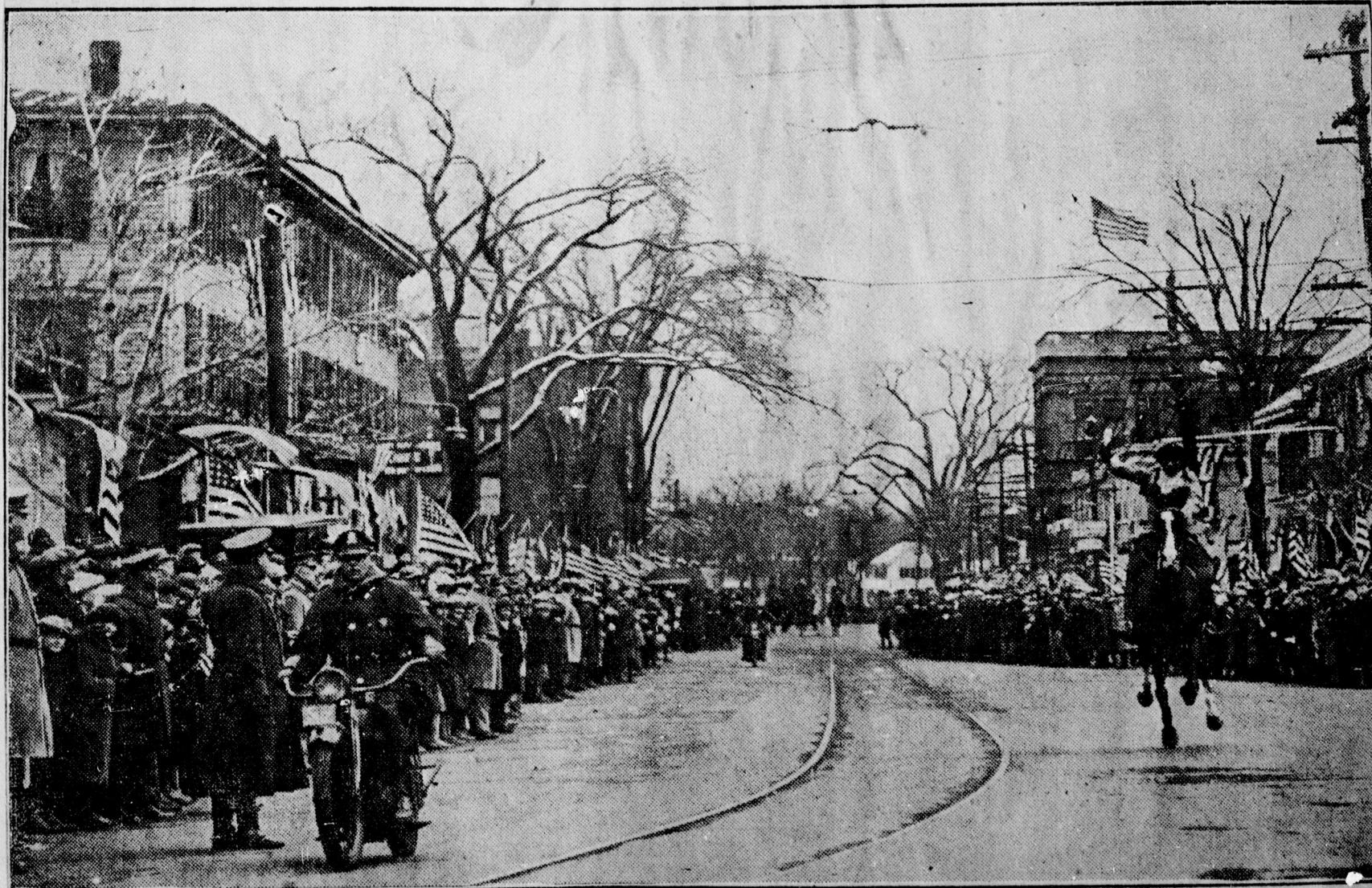


HEADQUARTERS - APR 14 - 21 - 1925

To the Rattle of Musketry and Clouds of Battle Smoke the British Slowly Fall Back Before the Onslaught of the Minute Men

(Transcript Photo by Colby)

"A Hurry of Hoofs in the Village Street"



(Transcript Photo by Colby)

Paul Revere, Impersonated by Master Sergeant Harold L. Philbrick of Troop A, 110th Cavalry, Rides Up to the Battle Green in Lexington

In the Wake of the Shot Heard Round the World

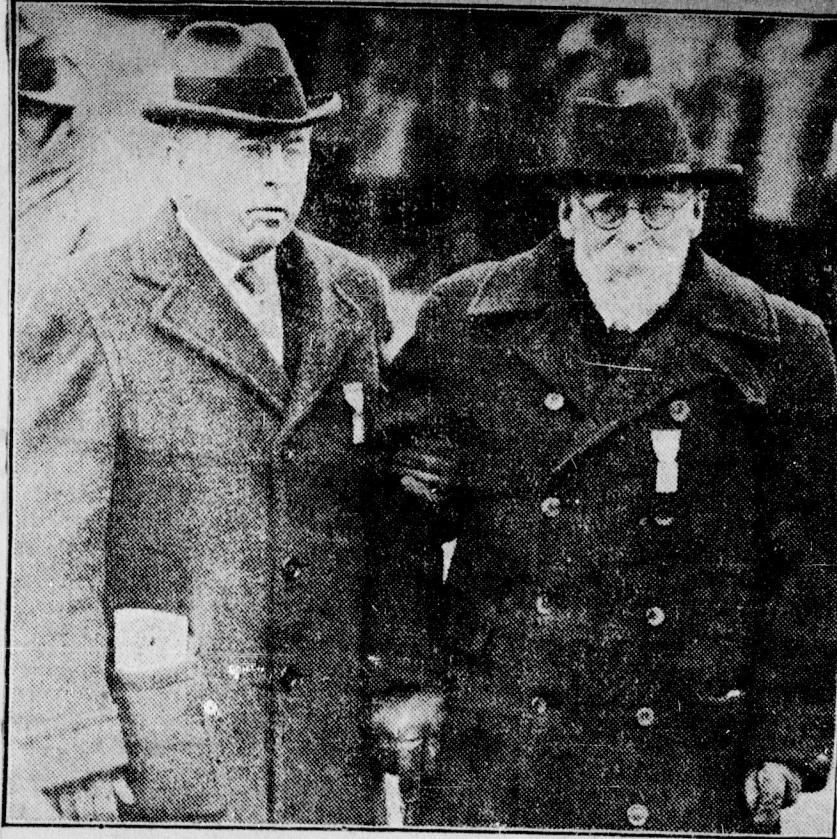


92614 - APR 14 - 1911 - HERALD

The Provincial Troops on the Heels of the Fleeing British

(Transcript Photo by Colby)

Across the Span of Fifty Years



HER44D
APR 14 - 21
- 1925

(Transcript Photo by Colby)
Wells A. Hall, Secretary of the Concord Town Committee, and **Henry F. Smith**, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen at the Time of the Celebration in 1875



(Transcript Photo by Colby)
Charles L. Parker and **H. H. Kitson**, the Designer of the Lexington Minute Man

HERA 40 - APR 14²¹ - 1925

1775 ————— 1925

Glimpses of the Celebration at Concord, Lexington and Nearby Towns, Commemorating the Start of the American Revolution, 150 Years Ago.



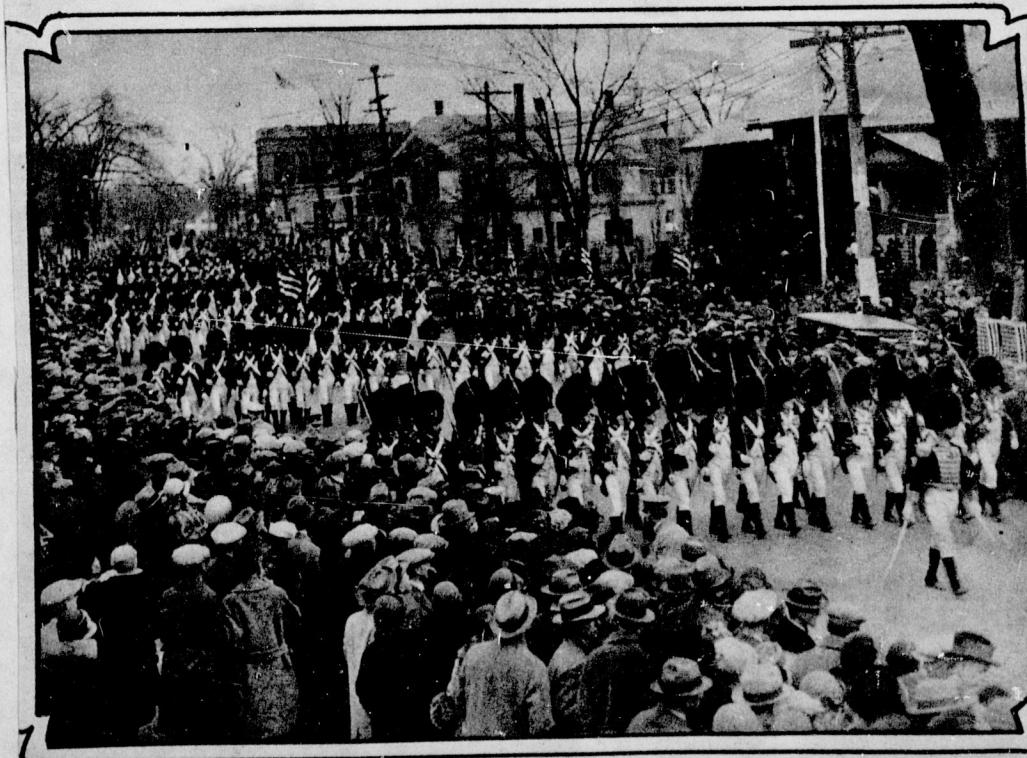
Vice-President and Mrs. Dawes Greeted by Young and Old in the Shadow of the Minute-Man Statue in Lexington.

(Leslie Jones)

HERALD - APR 14-21-1921

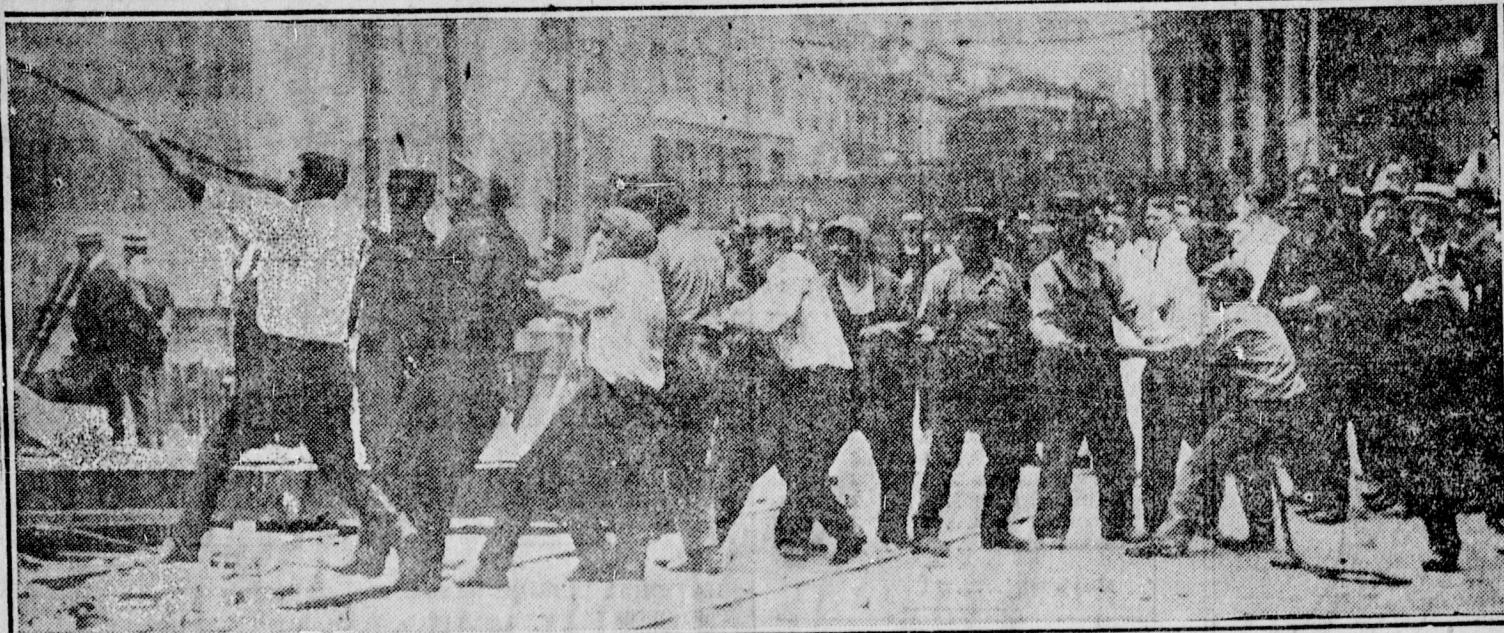


General Pershing and Mayor Curley Inspect the Minute-Men of Medford.
(A. H. Waldron)



The Governor's Footguard of Connecticut Parade Past the Reviewing Stand in Lexington.

WORKMEN PULL DOWN WALL LEFT STANDING WHEN PICKWICK CLUB BUILDING COLLAPSED



TRAVELER JUN 4-1925

MISSING AND INJURED PERSONS IN DISASTER AT PICKWICK CLUB



JAMES CORSO
Injured.



MRS "PEGGY" LAWSON
Missing.



RITA CARLSON
Waitress Dangerously Injured.

TRAVERSE - JULY 3 - 1925.

WORKED FOUR HOURS TO BRING OUT WOMAN



MALCOLM MCINTOSH OF ENGINE 26 AND FRANK JACOBY

PICKWICK CLUB LURE LAY IN ITS MYSTERY

Atmosphere of Underworld There
Was Heightened by Stabbing,
Raids, Ticket System

By HENRY W. HARRIS

A low-hung ceiling, freckled with red, green and yellow lights.

A dim, smoky atmosphere.

Couples dancing violently, in long strides, short wiggles or after the manner of an old-fashioned jig, to the crash of a tinny orchestra.

A little waitress, primly dressed in white, plying among small tables, serving soft drinks and food with equal friendliness to men without collars, men in evening dress, heavily painted women, middle-aged couples from the country, schoolma'ms and flappers come to take a look at night life.

That was the Pickwick Club, center of din and mystery, which fell yesterday morning. "The Malamute Saloon" some newspapermen called it, and its gaudy dinginess and noise gave color to the name.

Regarded as Underworld

than once for liquor, but there seems to be no record showing that the management of the club had been convicted of selling it. Newspaper writeups of the night clubs stated that there was always liquor on the premises, but if any was sold there it was not by the management.

On the night of April 13, the place suffered from fire on the floor above the Pickwick Club. Four alarms were rung; the flames did damage estimated at \$10,000.

The club opened first in the last weeks of 1924. Timothy J. Barry, its first manager, has many friends in Boston political, legal and newspaper circles. During the first week, the parties were quiet. For New Year's Eve reservations were sold out weeks in advance. In its first months, the Pickwick Club was on the ground floor, the main home of the old Cafe Dreyfus. As months went by, other elements seemed increasingly to dominate among the guests

Continued
next page

JU44, 3-1925

(1)

Many people have regarded it as a sort of an underworld social center, a place where bandits and their girl friends might gather after the evening's work was over. Yet this element, though it may have given the atmosphere to the place, did not make up the whole, or nearly the whole of the guests.

Prominent city officials were often seen there. There was always a good percentage of quiet-looking people, come there either in the hope of seeing the underworld at play, or in desperation, when there seemed nowhere else to go after the theatre.

Yet there is no doubt that the underworld gave the place its atmosphere, and its reputation. One night last March, a certain Michael Galvin was taken from the club to Haymarket Relief Station with a knife wound in the left thigh. The cause of it, the name of the stabber, the police have not yet learned, or if they have learned it, they have not found the time yet ripe to make an arrest.

Arrest in Holdup There

The same night, Patrolman Paul Holleran of Station 4 was called into the club because six or seven men were creating a disturbance. He found it necessary to arrest a certain James Montrose, on a charge of drunkenness. James Ross, according to Montrose, tried to rescue the prisoner, and forced him to release his hold. Officer Holleran ran to the street, pounded with his club to attract the attention of other policemen. Officer Callahan appeared and the two arrested both Ross and Montrose, and dispersed the crowd.

Last May, after the \$23,000-Lever Brothers holdup in Cambridge, it was at the Pickwick Club that the police lay their trap to catch the man under suspicion. They knew he frequented the club. They arrested him one night, just as he was about to enter its door. He has since been indicted by a Middlesex County Grand Jury, and released in \$2500 for trial.

The police say he has been at the Pickwick Club every night since, and there are many who believe that he must have been killed in yesterday morning's disaster. At his arrest, he gave the name of James Allen.

Opened in Quiet Fashion

The police have raided the club more

of the club.

The management appears to have attempted to check the movement; restricted membership cards were issued, but it seemed to have no effect.

Put Rival Out of Business

On March 5, it was announced that the Pickwick Club was going out of business. Its rooms, said the news stories, would be occupied by the Greenwich Village Club, under the management of Nat Clark, assistant to City Censor John M. Casey, Michael J. Ward of the Mayor's secretarial bureau, and John F. Glynn, brother of Fire Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn.

Invitations for the opening night were sent to many people, including city officials, and asked that replies be sent to the Mayor's office. This seeming linking of the Mayor's name with the enterprise, the three later explained was a mistake and not intentional. City officials boycotted the opening night: Clark was discharged from his position at City Hall.

According to the management of the new club, it was to be a licensed cafe, not a night club. It seems to have turned out just that way, for the Greenwich Village Club, after a couple of quiet months—quiet both from the point of view of business and notoriety—passed out of existence. What had happened to it was that the Pickwick Club had moved itself bag and baggage to the floor above, and taken all the trade coming to the building.

Mystery Grew Recently

In the Pickwick Club the atmosphere became increasingly mysterious. It had been possible to get in without membership cards, now it was next to hopeless. A large, blond man stood at the street door behind a sort of wooden grating, and would not open until the cards were shown. But, somehow, this did not seem to remove the underworld atmosphere; in fact, it increased.

Disagreements between dancers and diners became increasingly fistic.

The management, whatever its leniency in giving out membership cards, always made every effort to keep the club orderly, to prevent disagreements and to put out the objectionally drunk. Three or four bouncers were constantly walking around, telling people to quiet down.

AMERICAN - JULY 3 - 1925.

Mayor Takes Charge

Mayor Curley's attention was called by the Post at 11 o'clock last night to the dilatory work in clearing away the debris and getting out bodies still known to be under the tangled mass of wreckage.

After telephoning the chief of the fire department to spare no effort or expense to speed up the task and secure efficient results, Mayor Curley left his summer home at Hull and raced over the road by automobile to take personal charge of the job.

At that time there were insufficient men and their efforts seemed to lack co-ordination. An inadequate derrick, with a weak, sputtering motor, was tugging futilely to drag away timbers and sections of flooring, and doing it in such a manner that bodies beneath were likely to be mangled beyond recognition.

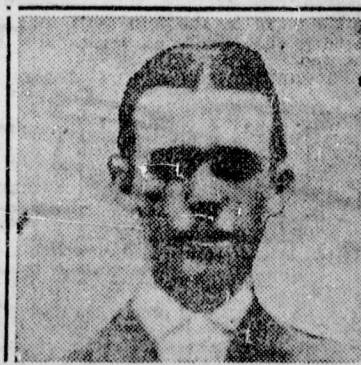
PAIR WHO HELPED SAVE INJURED FROM DEBRIS



PHILIP G. FERREN (left) AND PATROLMAN SYLVESTER MURPHY,
STATION 4



DORIS CURTIS.
Missing.



EDWARD La GROFF.
Dangerously Injured.



MARY McDougall.
Dangerously Injured.

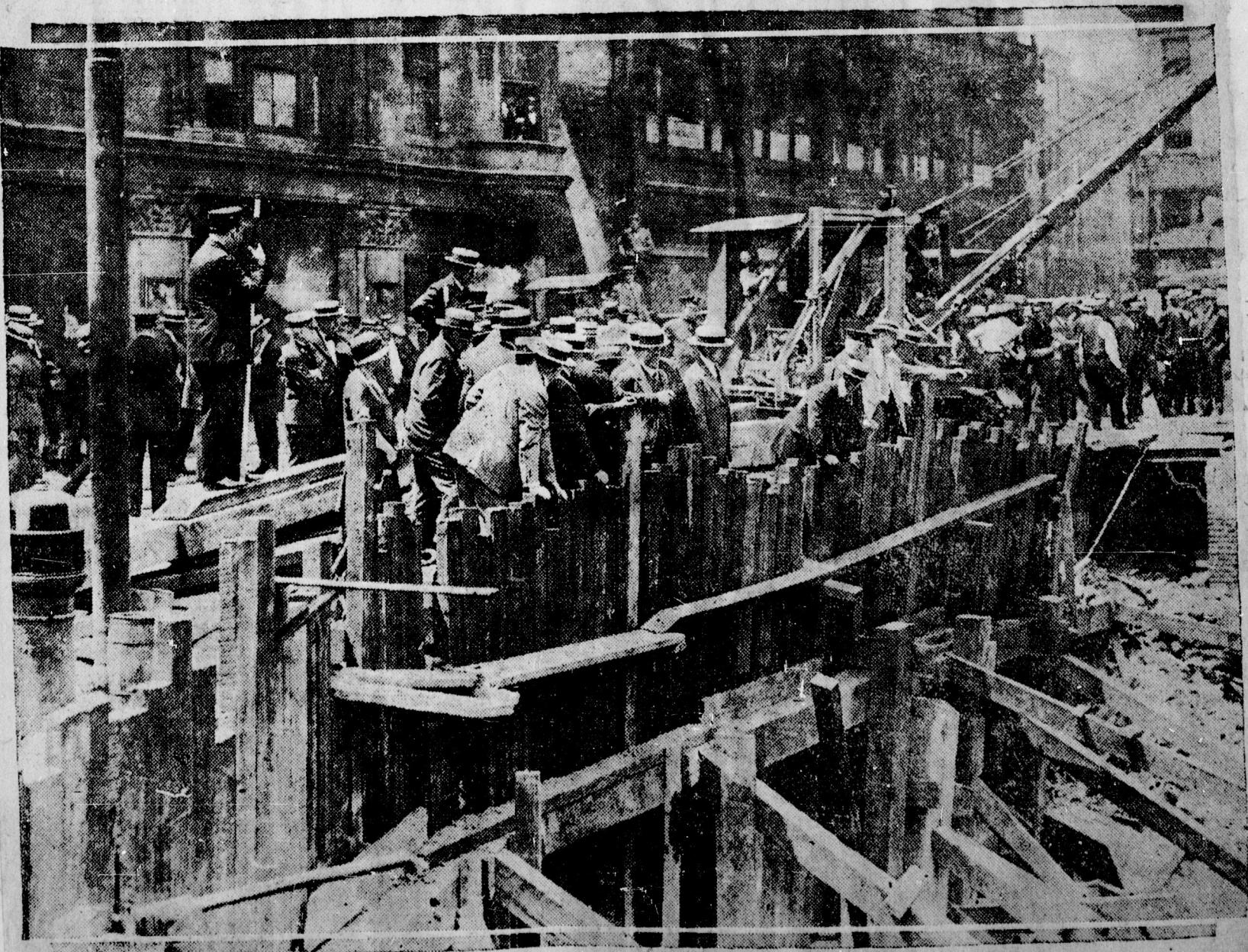
Grand Jurors Inspect Premises Where Twoscore Died



TRAVERSE - JV 44 - 1925

The Suffolk county grand jury viewing the ruins of the Pickwick Club from the pinto into which portions of the wall crashed, carrying dancers to their death. The jurors inspected the ruins from various angles, points of construction being explained by engineers.

Jurymen Studying Ruins from Vantage Point



TRADEWEEK - 1041 - 1925

From this point of vantage on Beach street, members of the grand jury today viewed the ruins of the wrecked Pickwick Club, which hurled more than two score "night before" merrymakers to their deaths. The jurors were accompanied by a court attendant,

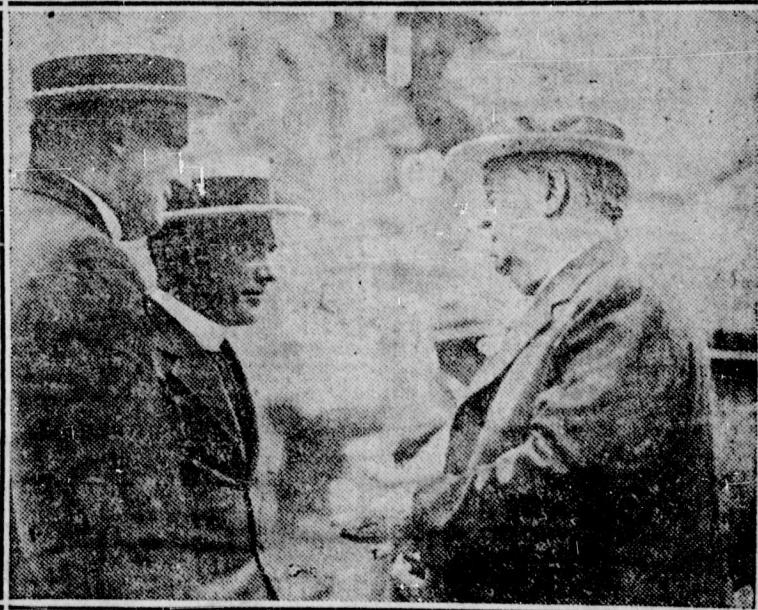


TRAVELER - JUNE 1925.

Cross-section view taken from above showing the exact way in which the horror at the Pickwick Club occurred. Almost in their entirety the three floors crashed down with the burden of dancers who were carried to their death in the mass of wreckage. None of the cross beams or supporting girders were strong enough to withstand the avalanche. On the right can be seen the only corner of the club floor which was left in position. On this part of the floor was the piano, which could be discerned while the bodies were being removed, grim reminder of the revels which came so suddenly to disaster.

TRAVEGER - JULY - 1925

PRIESTS OF ST JAMES' HELP IN RELIEF WORK



REV PHILIP J. O'DONNELL, (AT RIGHT) AND HIS CURATES

TWO OF VALIANT AIDS FROM CITY HOSPITAL



DR ROBERT COLEMAN (at left) AND DRIVER JAMES G. BEANE

GENERAL SCENE OF RUINS ON BEACH ST AFTER LAST WALL HAD BEEN PULLED DOWN



TRAVELLER - JULY 1925.

PARTY WORKING TO RESCUE MRS JORDAN, SAVED AFTER FOUR HOURS ONLY TO DIE



TRAVELLER - JULY - 1925

TRAVEGER - JULY - 1925.



TEARING DOWN REMAINING PICKWICK CLUB WALL
With a roar and a cloud of plaster and dust the wall on the Beach street side of the ill-fated building that men-
aced the rescuers, fell into Beach street when scores of firemen tugged at the cable. Before it was razed, the
wall threatened to fall upon the rescue squads at work among the debris

TRAVELER - JV 4/ - 1925

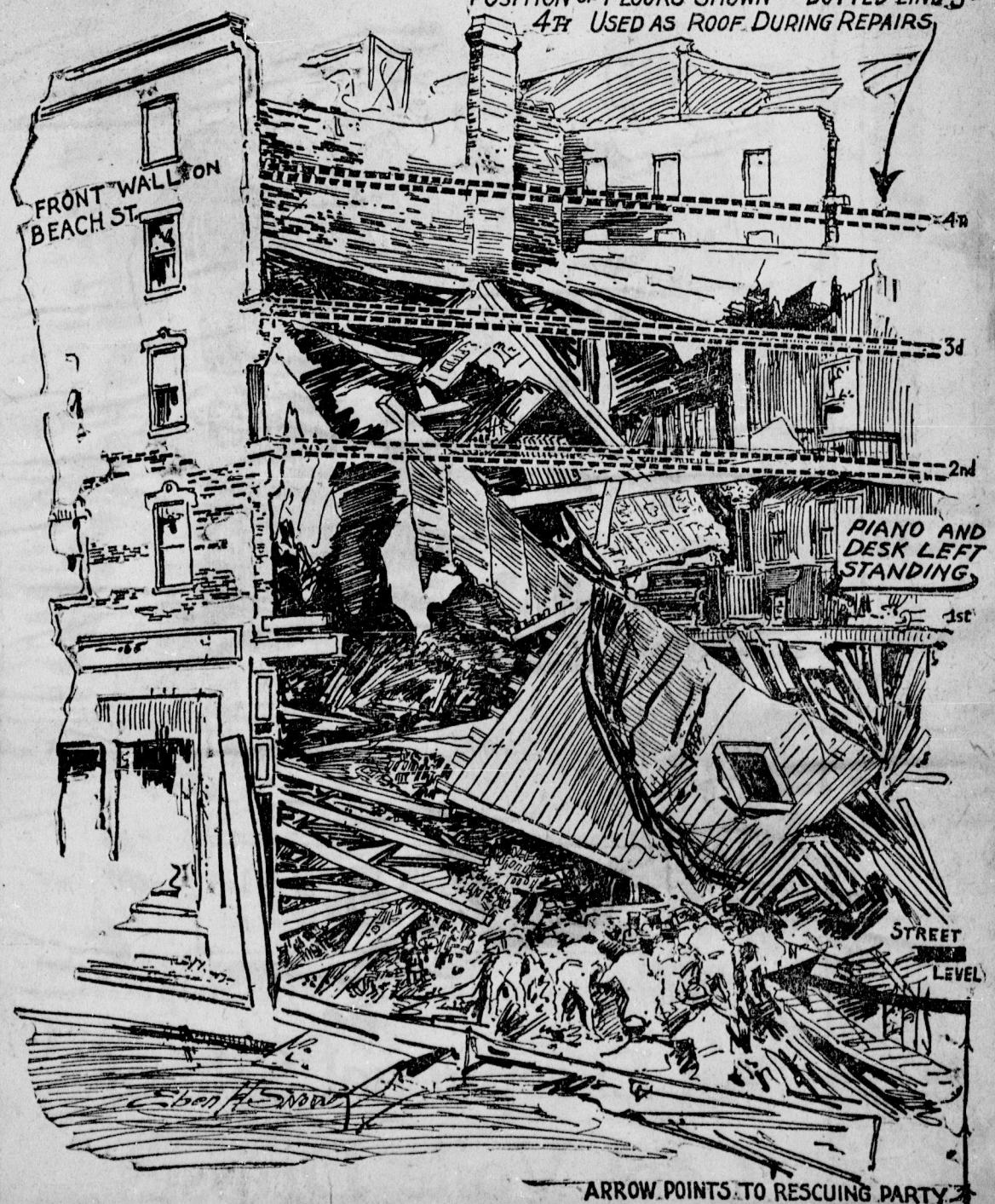
MRS JORDAN TAKEN TO AMBULANCE FOR VAIN DASH TO CITY HOSPITAL



POSTI - JU 44-1925

SKETCH SHOWS DETAILS OF RUINS AS FLOORS OF BUILDING DROPPED

POSITION OF FLOORS SHOWN BY DOTTED LINES.
4TH USED AS ROOF DURING REPAIRS.



ARROW POINTS TO RESCUING PARTY.

FATHER OF GIRL WEEPS AT RUINS

Keeps Repeating "Sodom and Gomorrah," While Waiting for Bodies From Dance of Death Wreckage

"Sodom and Gomorrah!"

Among the thousands of sad-eyed men, women and children, many relatives and friends of the dead and missing, waiting through the long hours on the side lines of the tragedy, came this plaintive wail from an old man whose daughter had been reported trapped in the debris of the building.

THE WAGES OF SIN

"What is he saying?" men and women asked one another, as they listened in a hushed silence to the cry of "Sodom and Gomorrah" which broke from the lips of the old man, bowed with his grief.

"The wages of sin is death. That is what it means," explained a young woman standing nearby. "I know what he means. My brother was there having a good time, and he is still there, I guess."

All eyes turned on the father, whose daughter was celebrating the dance of death at the fateful hour. He did not see the crowds about him. When

LACK OF COLLAR SAVED BROTHER

Being a good fellow saved a brother of Frank Castelino of 69 Hale street, West End, from injury or death in the Pickwick Club collapse, and resulted in Frank being trapped in the building. Frank is among the injured in the City Hospital.

The two brothers came from New Haven Friday night. Frank had no collar or necktie. Together with a friend, the brothers went to the club. Frank was refused admittance unless he wore a collar. His brother took off his own and gave it to him.

spoken to, he looked at the speaker without seeing. Even the young woman, sister of a brother who was pinned in the wreckage, could not get a word out of the old father but "Sodom and Gomorrah."

Communion of Sympathy

And, although countless men and women in the crowds did not hear or understand the cry of the old man, there was a communion of sympathy among all. The same emotions were swelling in the breasts of all who came to the spot of the catastrophe.

In the early hours of the morning as one passed among the crowds, one heard but one plaint, "Why did he go there! Why did she go there!" They seemed acquainted with the old Biblical story, for many said they had warned their friends and relatives of avoiding the night club life.

Many of the people huddled together on the side lines had come just for the purpose of viewing the spectacle, the great pile of fallen debris, the lone brick wall, the only remnant of the front portion of the building, which was allowed to stand until afternoon, but the baleful atmosphere, the knowledge that in those ruins, dead and, perhaps, some bordering on the point of death were pinned, made of the most carefree Fourth of July celebrant a reverent person.



AREZKI CHEEBA
Westminster Hotel employee injured in Pickwick Club crash.

DETECTIVE IN DEBRIS

Police Inspector at the Pickwick Club Before Cave-In

Police Inspector Benjamin Alexander, father of six minor children and one of the best known pickpocket detectives in the country, is believed to have met his death in the Pickwick Club collapse by following a clue which promised to lead him to the arrest of a man sought for a week in connection with the larceny of \$7000 worth of jewels from the Hall & Edwards jewelry firm at 118 Tremont street.

RUNNING DOWN CLUE

Receiving his tip from a brother officer a short time before the collapse to the effect that the man, thought to be in New York, was in Boston, Alexander is believed to have gone directly to the Pickwick Club, known to be a favorite rendezvous of the thief. He was last seen by several friends sitting alone at a table.

The first intimation that he might have been among the victims of the collapse came when he failed to appear for morning roll call. His brother officers, among whom he was most popular, refused to believe for hours that he was in the mass of debris that buried the victims. "It can't be Benny," they insisted. As the hours passed and no call came from the officer at the headquarters inspectors desk there were tears in the eyes of his partners.

All Anxious for Benny

Every man coming from headquarters to the scene was asked only one question, "Have you heard anything from Benny?" The reply was invariably the same, "No, anything new about him down here?" When the men on day duty were dismissed quietly by their superiors in Pemberton square, they went to Beach street.

Hardly a word was spoken. What little they had to say to each other was in whispers. At the scene they took up their long, silent, patient vigil far in the background of the crowd.

Alexander is reputed in police circles throughout the country as one of the best pickpocket men developed in recent years. He knew the jargon, the haunts and the habits of the men who sought to make their living by picking pockets. His record shows the arrest of practically every "dip" with an international record, while he has succeeded in obtaining a high number of convictions on the "larceny from the most difficult persons."

PICKWICK CLUB GANGSTERS' HOME

Its Lure for Thrill Hunters Was That of Expectancy and Mystery—
Place to Meet Gunmen

Darkened stairs, a song in the hush of morning, at this table a character—mystery, expectancy.

In the stillness of night, while Boston slumbered, such was the lure that called a few—perhaps 100, but seldom more—into the silence of streets, across into the heart of the city, up a darkened staircase, beyond a battered door, then hilarity and later horror and death.

Such was the Pickwick Club.

FROM 12 TILL 4

A block from the city's main business street, nestled on the second floor of a grim, old building in Beach street, the Pickwick Club lived, from midnight until four in the morning.

The club was one big room. In one corner was a three-piece orchestra—a piano, the drums and a saxophone player. In the rear was a bar—salvaged from other days.

Around the sides were tables, some covered with tattered cloths, others with no cloths at all. There were dim lights, now and then an appealing song, and huge pictures on the walls. At the front end, facing Beach street, was the dance floor.

The Old Dreyfus

The Pickwick Club, originating in prohibition days, had its first quarters on the ground floor of what had been the old Dreyfus. A few months ago it moved to its larger room on the floor above. In the dining room of the old Dreyfus, there had been nothing but a stone dance floor, some snug corners and brilliant lights. It wasn't blase.

Upstairs, where night-before celebrators danced as death and horror came,

the lights were dim; the room was large, the windows curtained—and there were pictures on the walls.

Few Knew of It

Few knew the Pickwick Club. Night workers passing along Washington street had heard the sounds of its revelry as morning came. There have been many persons, school boys and thrill hunters who have visited the club, to spend a night with its life. The Pickwick Club was deeper than that.

At its tables gunmen have sat, smiling and happy, drinking with the mirth of fortune. On warm nights, men danced in shirt sleeves, while at some table across the hall a girl received the caress of a stranger.

At other tables were college boys and sometimes a girl on a lark. Here and there bottles were lifted onto tables, then came the clinking of glasses, then laughter and later song.

Every Night Different

Occasionally, a theatrical performer appeared and at times the club, in its life at dawn, has played host to men of fortune and name.

Every night was different at the Pickwick. Its mystery and expectancy was its life. Its big, wooden door at the entrance to the hall, always remained guarded. Before entering one must be identified as a member or friend. Strangers were not allowed.

Now and again, at the height of festivities, a battering at the big door, the onrush of uniformed police, the fright of a man in the crowd, has thrilled its joy seekers.

Got Bandit in Hallway

In the big hall, scarcely more than a fortnight ago, police seized Lester Fogg as one of the bandits in the big Lever Brothers' payroll robbery, amounting to \$27,000. For a moment the music was stilled, and then it was on again.

On another night, the spectacle of men

Cat Lives Through Crash

A cat lived all through the terrible scenes which attended the collapse of the building housing the Pickwick Club. The animal was once white, but shortly after 9 o'clock yesterday morning, when it was sighted crawling from beneath the debris on what was the fifth floor, the animal was a sorry sight. The frightened cat was more than an hour making its way carefully down stringers and bits of wreckage until it finally reached the ground. Then it fled, to be seen no more during the day. It limped a bit, but otherwise appeared to have survived the accident.

fighting the screams of one as a knife blade was thrust at him, the sight of blood and the arrival of police added another thrill that came with its life.

Still another time, fire swept up its stairway. Yesterday came death and ruin.

Resort of Gangsters

In the Pickwick Club men of the underworld were regular visitors. Prize fighters were found there. Frequently gangsters sought it as a stamping ground to avenge some wrong, with others.

In the street below, taxi cabs hung to the curbs. Police officers patrolled before the door; restaurant hangers-on kept their eyes peeled, and in that spot in the city, until the sun had appeared again, the expectancy of something different remained.

Entering the club's building, visitors met a huge man, more than six feet in height and the weight of 200 pounds behind his fists. A former member of the police force, his new lot, since the days of the Pickwick, has been peace keeper at the doorway.

Must Pass Query Test

The door was always open. The visitor, moving into a darkened hallway, met the guardian of the door and regular questions were plied. Passing here, they moved up a flight of stairs, winding a little bit, then to the landing above.

CLOSE UP PHALANX AND LAMBS CLUBS

The collapse of the building housing the Pickwick Club resulted in the closing of the Lambs Club (now the Charles River A. A.), on Lansdowne street, and the Phalanx Club (the Black and White Club), in Washington street, last night. Both the clubs were ordered closed by Building Commissioner Mahoney under an emergency ruling. The closing is "until there is opportunity to see if the buildings housing them are safe."

The door there was locked. There were no mysterious tapping or noises necessary to get the attention of the guard inside. Merely a knock, and the door opened and questioning anew began for the man who was not especially known there.

At midnight the three-piece orchestra began its music. Cabaret singers, three young men, appeared. Seldom before that hour, although the club opened at 11, did its habitues arrive.

Something Doing Till Dawn

From then until dawn there was somethin' goin'. The crowds called for the songs they chose and regularly each morning one of its victims in yesterday's horror strode among the tables, his voice uplifted singing "My Wild Irish Rose."

Always the song went across. A shower of change greeted the songster and on some nights bills were shoved into his hands.

Another songster, also reported missing after the collapse of the building yesterday, had won his way into the hearts of those who sought the Pickwick Club for merriment in the morning. His songs were appealing—"Old Pal," "All Alone," and others.

A Versatile Lad

It was everybody make their own time. The particular songster, whose songs were called for, had frequently entertained by impersonations of various characters. It was not something staged or something that was announced.

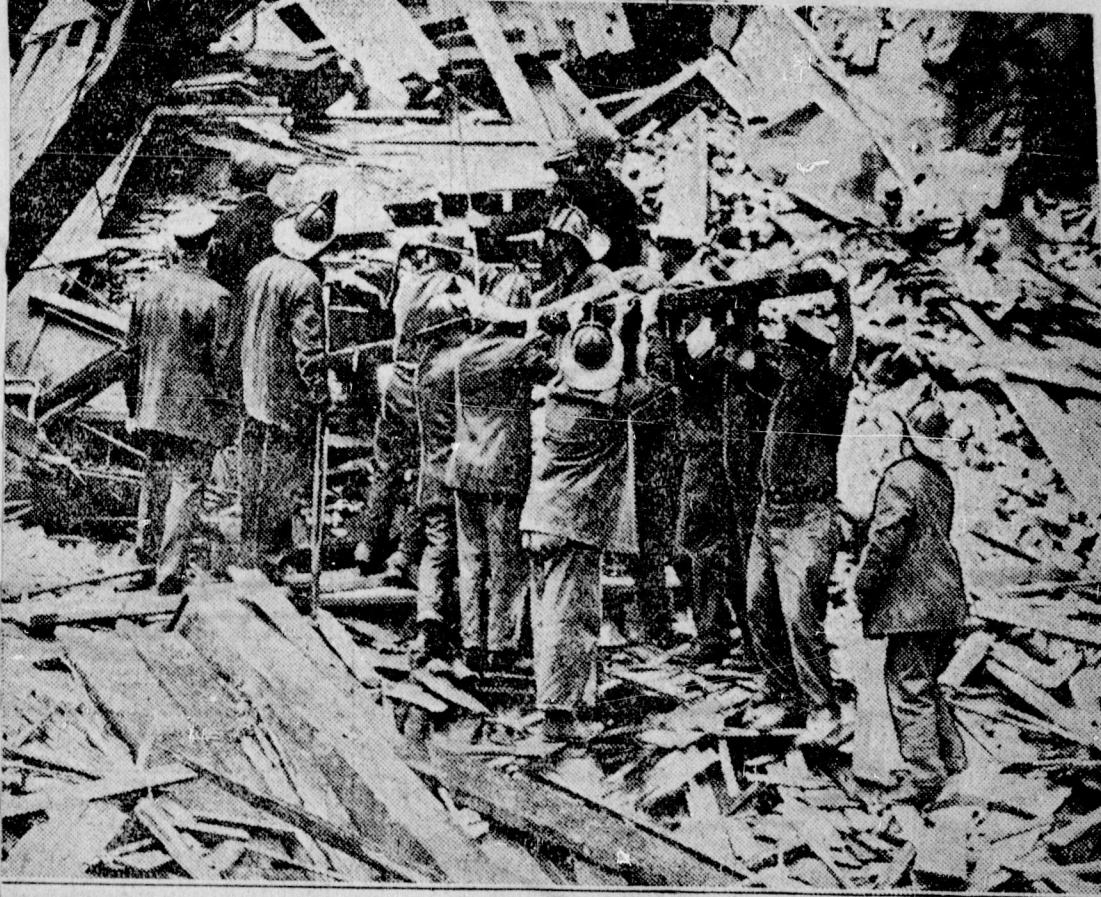
One night, when nothing else happened to kill the regularity of hours passing, the Pickwick visitors got their thrill from him. He entertained at the orchestra, leading it in its playing, thumping away at the drums, impersonating a conductor of ability and note. There was nothing extraordinary about it, only simple but entertaining to the crowd that morning.

No Liquor at the Bar

Among the visitors to the club, men of mystery moved. Liquor was found there, but the new visitors, delighting at the presence of an old-time bar,

POST - JULY 1921

POST-1044-1925.

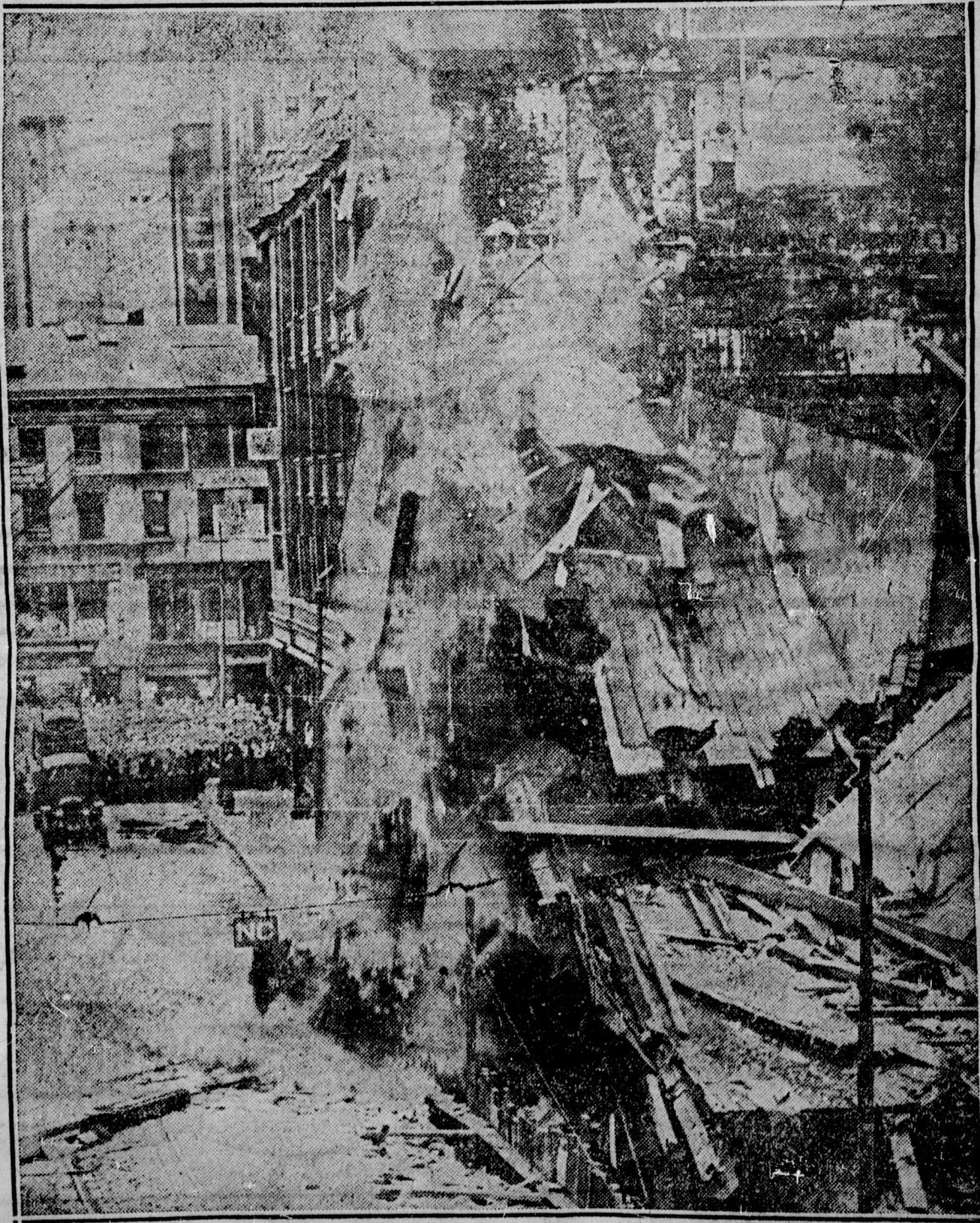


FIREMEN TRYING TO REACH PICKWICK CLUB CRASH VICTIMS.

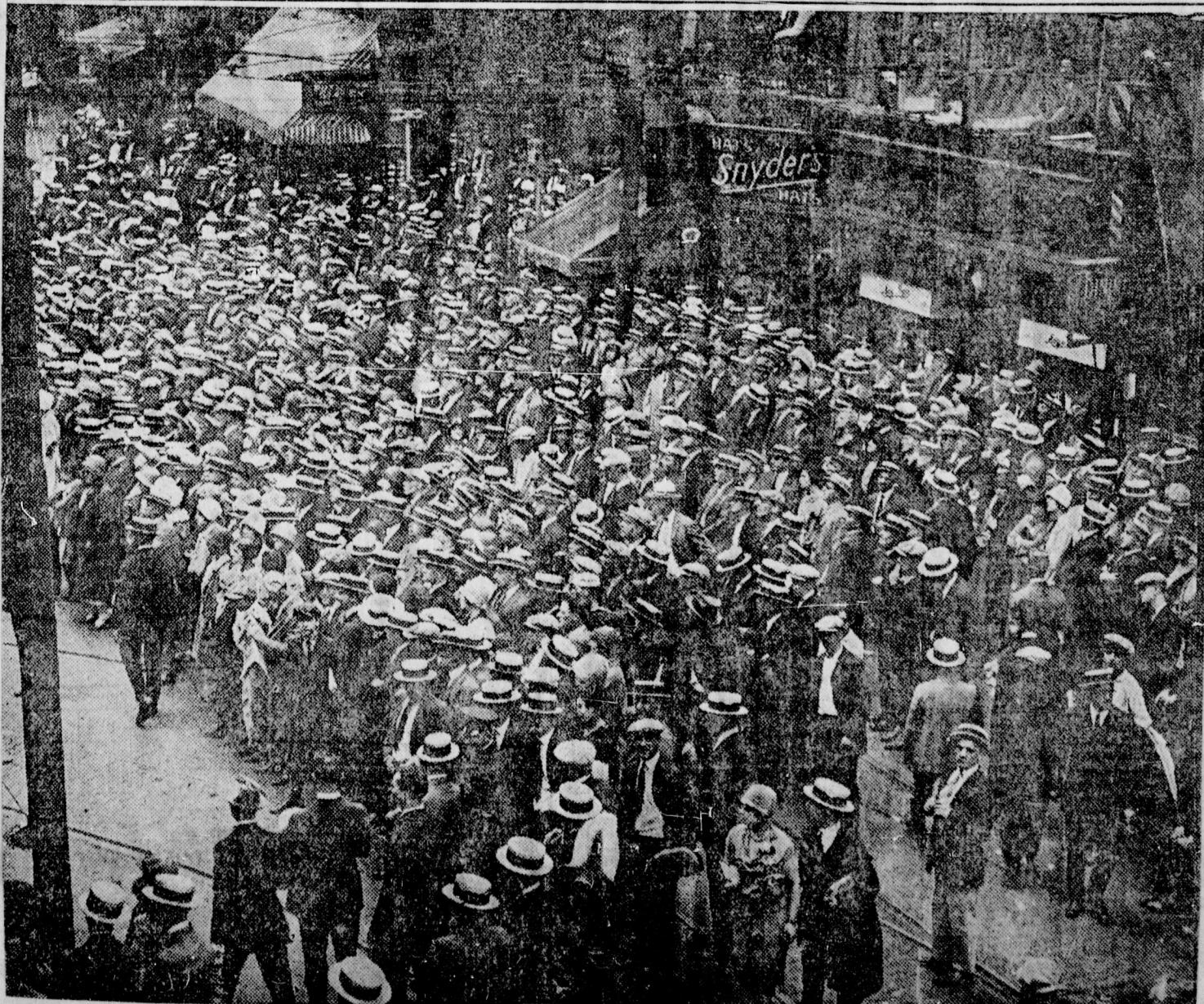
Ripping loose a big timber from the ruins the firemen used it as a lever in a vain attempt to force their way into the tangled mass of debris to reach one of the injured trapped whose cries were pitiful. More men joined the rescue workers and slowly they dug their way into the heap and to the side of the injured man. So great was the pile of debris that hours went by before many of those trapped beneath could be reached.

POSF - JU44 - 1925.

BEACH-ST WALL OF BUILDING PULLED DOWN TO PERMIT RELIEF WORK TO GO ON

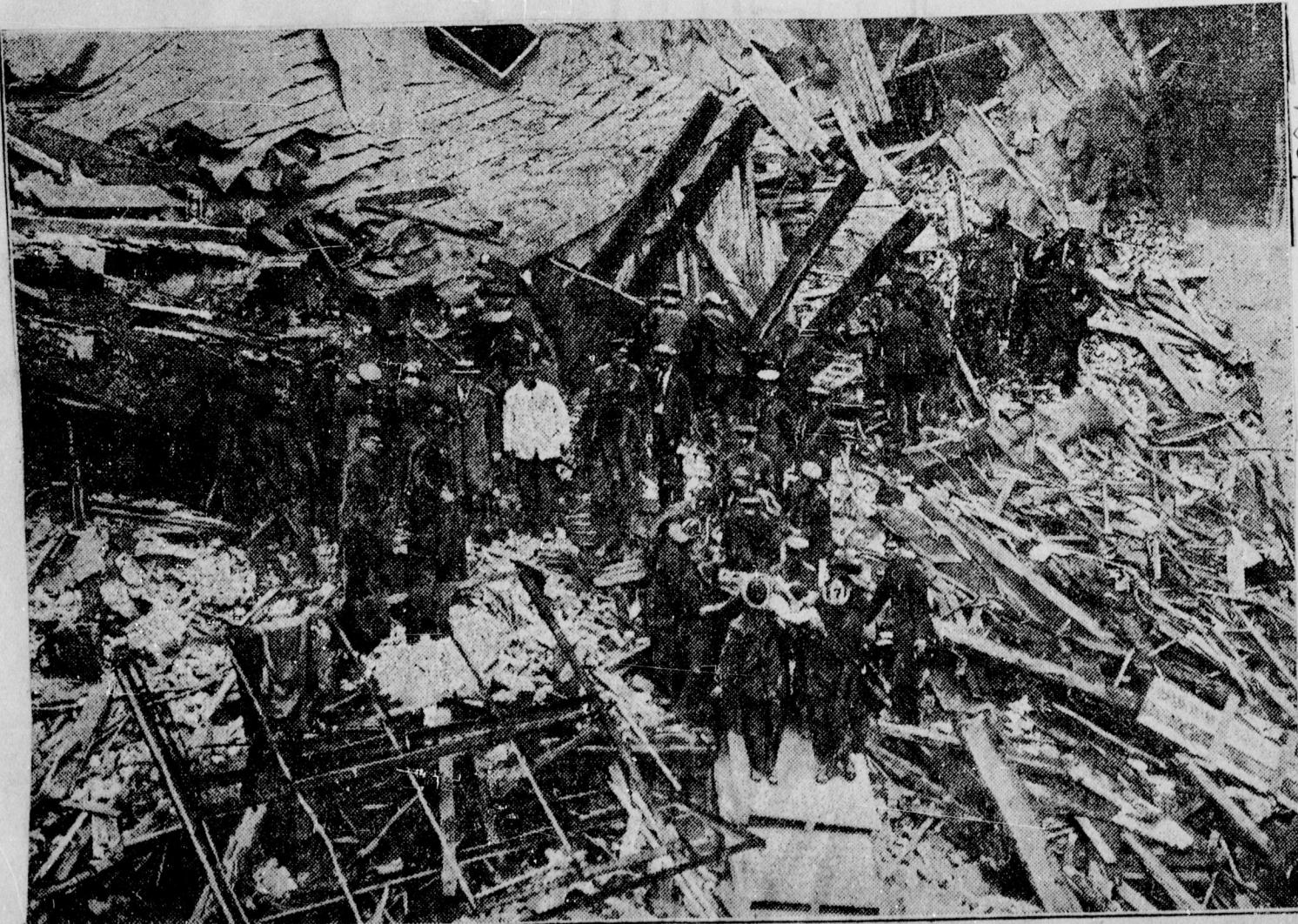


CROWD ON WASHINGTON ST NEARBY WAITS FOR NEWS FROM SCENE OF PICKWICK CRASH



PO57 - JUL 4/1 - 1925

POST - JU44 - 1925



FIREMEN CARRYING OUT A VICTIM FROM ILL-FATED PICKWICK CLUB AFTER THE CRASH

It was only after the hardest kind of work by the police, firemen and scores of laborers that any of the victims buried beneath the tons and tons of debris could be reached. For hours hundreds of relatives stood beyond the fire lines anxiously waiting as the rescue work went slowly on. This photo shows one of the victims being carried from the ruins to an ambulance.



POST-JULY 4-1925

CARRYING OUT ONE OF THE VICTIMS FROM THE PICKWICK CLUB CRASH RUINS

Mrs. Edith Jordan, who was only reached beneath the tons of debris by tunnelling by the firemen and laborers. She was alive when rescued, but died some time later at the City Hospital. Commissioner Glynn, who worked in the ruins until he was on the point of dropping, is shown at the left helping carry the victim.

POST - JU44-1925.



POST-JV4/-1925

in

THE WALL THAT MENACED RESCUERS IN PICKWICK CLUB RUINS.

Every moment the tottering wall threatened to crash down upon the firemen, police and laborers working in the debris to rescue the dead and injured. Wrecking crews of the fire department soon had the wall down so that the rescue work could go on in safety. The photo shows the wall on the Beach street side.



P08P-JU4Y-1925.



WAITING FOR THE FINDING OF VICTIMS IN PICKWICK CLUB CRASH.

Part of the fleet of ambulances waiting in Beach street for the bodies and those who were injured when the walls of the Beach street club crashed down upon them during a July 4 dance. Tons of debris in the worst kind of a tangled mass hampered the rescuers. One by one the dead and injured were brought out and carried away by the ambulances.

POST - JULY - 1925

FIRE OFFICIALS ON SCENE TO AID IN DIGGING BODIES FROM RUINS



Left to Right—Chief Sennott, Commissioner Glynn and Dist Chief C. A. Donahue.

POST - JU44 - 1925

COUNTY AND CITY OFFICIALS VIEW SCENE OF HORROR AND RESCUE



Left to Right—Medical Examiner Leary, DistAtty O'Brien and Police Commissioner Wilson.

POSIT - JU4Y - 1925

BUILDING COMMISSIONER AT NIGHT CLUB'S RUINS



BUILDING COMMISSIONER MAHONY (AT LEFT) AND POLICE
COMMISSIONER WILSON

AMERICAN JUL. 6, 1925

Dist.-Atty. O'Brien Orders Thorough Survey of Beach Street Building to Find Cause of Collapse

A Grand Jury investigation of the Pickwick Club disaster will be set in motion today by Dist. Atty. O'Brien.

Capt. Armstrong of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation has been gathering data connected with the catastrophe and engineers made a survey of the premises.

A permit issued for repairs in the building, tacked outside the door of the club entrance following the crash, and discovered by Dist. Atty. O'Brien, will be presented to the Grand Jury.

This permit stated the building was undergoing what is known as "fire repairs" and was issued by the city building department.

Four burned stanchions or supports which held up the upper floors of the club and a tar-papered roof, showing the building was not in perfect repair, were photographed by the police.

OFFICIAL SURVEY

Guy Emerson, engineer for the Boston Finance Commission, made measurements of the land adjoining the collapsed building and took a survey of that part where the shoring is alleged to have been done by workmen some days before the accident.

Engineers representing Stone & Webster Co., Otis Pease, Charles T. Maine and other concerns were sum-



DIST. ATTY. O'BRIEN

mmed to assist Engineer Emerson in making the survey.

"I want a survey of the ground for presentation to the Grand Jury," said Dist. Atty. O'Brien, "I will leave no stone unturned to get at the facts. It may be necessary to have the Grand Jury come to the scene and look over the ground. No one will be spared in this investigation. Every known rumor regarding incidents connected with the build-

ing's past and present is being run down.

JUL 6 1925

"One rumor on which we are working is a story the building was supposed to be vacant while repairs were being made. Another is that the club management had extra workers engaged in remodelling the building so as to catch the 'Night Before the Fourth' trade. I want the Grand Jury to know all angles of this situation and am making a line of inquiry for presentation to them.

TRACKING RUMORS

"There was a permit on the building on which was the name of a man other than the one credited with owning the property. The permit stated that the structure was undergoing so-called 'fire repairs.' I had Capt. Armstrong take charge of the permit.

"My attention was directed to a closed desk in the Pickwick Club quarters. I understand efforts were made by parties to open this desk since the accident. That is another rumor I am running down."

HERALD JUL. 6, 1925
The Pickwick Club Tragedy
Pickwick Clubs are commonplaces in every large city, and probably few communities of 50,000 or more are free from them. Sometimes the police tolerate them, and sometimes harry them in an apparently earnest effort to have a record to point to. The character of the Pickwick Club is hardly to be defended stoutly, but that much cannot be said for the character of the building. It was a matter of more or less common knowledge that the place was frequently overcrowded, and that the roof was leaky. The precise weaknesses of the building, and the cause and the occasion of the collapse, cannot be known until competent experts investigate and report.

JUL 6 1925

Will responsibility then come home to one person? We have grave doubts of it. In every affair of this kind, there is an overlapping of authority, and a wide discretion in the enforcement of regulations. We have no doubt that there was malfeasance, nonfeasance and misfeasance, but we cannot make a guess as to who will be legally adjudged the guilty party. The world outside of Boston has already fixed the responsibility, of course, on the municipality itself.

For the unfortunate victims of the disaster, we have nothing but sympathy. They were celebrating "the night before" in a manner more or less sanctioned by custom. Probably celebrations of the same kind took place in a thousand clubs, good and bad, all over the country. These men and women were simply chance victims of somebody's grievous error in allowing such a treacherous

GLOBE JUL. 7, 1925

GOVERNOR READY TO ACT IF SUFFOLK COUNTY LAGS

Determined Pickwick Club Investigation Shall Be Thorough—To Receive Daily Reports From Benton

JUL 7 1925

38075

Just before leaving the State House last night, Gov. Fuller said he will receive a report today and every day from Atty Gen Jay R. Benton on the progress of the investigation into the collapse of the Pickwick Club. He intimated that if forceful prosecution is not made by Suffolk County officials, he will order the Attorney General to proceed.

Atty Gen Benton and Asst Atty Gen Lewis Goldberg were with the Governor yesterday afternoon, and reported that they felt a start has been made in pro-

ing the case before the Grand Jury before the consideration of any other case.

Gov. Fuller yesterday expressed himself as insistent that a thorough investigation be conducted to determine the responsibility for the accident. He visited the scene yesterday morning on his way to the State House.

Whether or not gambling and liquor selling was conducted in the building is a minor issue at this time. Gov. Fuller said, the principal question being to ascertain if there was any negligent act which caused the death of the night revellers.

AMERICAN

JUL 6, 1925

"Warning From the Almighty," Says Fr. O'Donnell, Making Plea for Prayer for Victims

"The terrible catastrophe that visited our city Saturday was like the first rumble of an earthquake—a warning from the Almighty," declared Rev. Fr. Philip J. O'Donnell, pastor of St. James Roman Catholic Church, Harrison ave., in his Sunday sermon.

"Pray for those unfortunate people whose lives were snuffed out with such little warning," he asked of his congregation.

The venerable priest deplored the night club life, which he termed a blot on the name of the city. He termed the sporting clubs "an incitement to crime, despoiler of young women and an absolute curse to Boston and the Commonwealth."

"Let us hope the authorities, now incensed over the activities of the night clubs, will take immediate action and rid Boston of this blight."

Fr. O'Donnell, whose parish is in the section where the Pickwick Club was located, has for years fought against the "wide-open night clubs" in the district.

ISSUES WARNING

During the course of his sermon to his flock at yesterday's masses he issued a warning for clean living. Many of those who were caught in the fatal crash, he stated, were probably attracted by the music and celebration activity and could not be considered frequenters of the place.

"During the long vigil maintained by the priests of our parish at the scene, one could not help notice the untiring, courageous work of police, firemen and laborers who struggled hour after hour to save the lives of those trapped under the ruins. We should feel proud of the work of our

Fr. O'Donnell, following the church service, returned to the scene of the accident and declared blame for the disaster must be placed squarely upon the shoulders of the Massachusetts Secretary of State, who issued the Pickwick license, he said, after it had been revoked.

Declaring that it was entirely wrong the State should be allowed the upper hand in such a circumstance, Fr. O'Donnell gave it as his opinion "home rule" should prevail in Boston and the city should be allowed the say as to who or who shall not do business in the Hub.

The Volstead Act, according to the priest, is responsible for such night life as that afforded by the Pickwick and other night clubs, and in his opinion, he said, all Catholic clergymen concur.

The Volstead Act he described as the wish of fanatics who would force their wills upon the greater mass of people born with wills of their own, in an attempt at converting human nature.

Fire Commissioner's Picture in Club Ruins Asks Public's Charity Toward Those

at the Club

JUL 7 1925

Heroes in the rescue work of the Pickwick Club catastrophe were lauded yesterday by Fire Commissioner Glynn, who has been in constant attendance at the scene. From ladderman "Larry" Doyle, who went deep into the ruins at the end of a human chain to extricate the victims, to the workers of the Salvation Army, Thompson's restaurant, and the general manager of the "L" road, the commissioner gave words of praise and commendation.

He called attention to the courage of Rev Lawrence P. Morris-Roe, who was one of the first at the scene, and who administered the last rites of the Catholic Church to the dying, risking his own life in many instances.

It was a photograph of the Fire Commissioner, but a fire commissioner a '95 less rotund than today.

police and firemen. They thought nothing of risking their lives among the dangerous ruins and did valiant work."

The priest also paid tribute to the group of laborers who tunneled their way through the ruins and effected many rescues.

BLAMES DRY LAW

AMERICAN JUL 6, 1925

ASSAILS SINISTER 'CLUBS'

Fr. O'Donnell in Stirring Sermon Calls Them Absolute Curse to City

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JUL 6 1925

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Fr. O'Donnell also paid tribute to the laborers who tunneled their way through the ruins and aided in

GLOBE

JUL 6, 1925

FOOTE PLACES BLAME ON POOR INSPECTION

C1
**State Commissioner of Public Safety Fails to See
Why Weakness in Building Was Not Ascertained**

JUL 6 1925

18075

In a report which Gov Fuller had directed him to make after an investigation of the Pickwick Club disaster, Gen Alfred F. Foote, State commissioner of Public safety, states this afternoon:

"Inasmuch as the building commissioner of Boston, presumably by his authorized inspector for that district, had made his inspection of the building with a view to granting a permit to repair the damage done by the fire, it would seem to me that this very fact warranted the most thorough inspection. Had such an inspection been given, I fail to see why the structural weaknesses, which, alas, seem to have existed, were not ascertained, and in which case the law should have been invoked to order the premises vacated and the street closed, and such other necessary steps taken as would have made this catastrophe at least less terrible in loss of life, if not quite impossible of occurrence."

The report of Gen Foote to the Governor is as follows:

"Early on the morning of July 4, the building at 6-12 Beach st, occupied by a club known as the Pickwick Club, collapsed. Up to this time it is said that 43 persons lost their lives.

"This was a five-story, second-class building, approximately 45 feet front and 65 feet deep. On April 13 there was a fire in the building. The estimated damage to the building was \$3000. Soon after application was made to the Building Commissioner of Boston for a permit to repair and reconstruct this building.

Special Law Applicable

"This was issued by the Boston Building Department and the repairs were begun:

"It is impossible at this time to arrive fairly at any decision as to what type of structural weakness caused the collapse.

"The law applicable in this case is a special law made for the city of Boston. In this connection it is desired to state that Boston is excepted from the building laws of the whole State; and in their stead there was made and passed a law governing all these matters so far as Boston is concerned, placing the responsibility upon the Building Commissioner of Boston and the Mayor of Boston.

The basic law was Chapter 550, 1907, and since that time there have been many amendments. All matters pertain-

ing to the erection, repair alteration and inspection of buildings come under the Building Commissioner for the city of Boston.

"Some part of the duties of the Building Commissioner Boston and the Mayor of Boston are contained in Chapter 143, General Laws, these being the matters that pertain more especially to places of public assembly and the like. The provisions of Chapter 143 are, however, not applicable to this situation.

"The following quotations of law are from the building law of the city of Boston:

"Par 1, Sec 3—The commissioner (Boston Building Commissioner) or one of his inspectors shall examine any buildings reported as dangerous or damaged, and shall make a record of such examination, stating the nature and estimated amount of this damage and the purpose for which the building is used, and in case of fire the probable origin thereof; and shall examine all buildings in respect to which examinations have been made for permission to raze, alter or repair, and shall make a record of every such examination."

"Par 2, Sec 4—The commissioner (Boston Building Commissioner) may, with the written approval of the Mayor, order any building which, in his opinion is unsafe and not provided with sufficient means of egress in case of fire, or exits, in violation of any provision of this act, to be vacated forthwith."

May Erect Protection

"Paragraph 1, Section 5—If the public so requires, the commissioner, with the approval of the Mayor, may at once enter the building or other structure which he finds unsafe or dangerous, the land on which it stands, or the abutting land or buildings with such assistance as he may require, and secure or remove the same and may erect such protection for the public by proper fence or otherwise, as may be necessary, and for this purpose may close up a highway."

GLOBE JUL 6, 1925

SPLITTING SECONDS INTO BILLION PARTS

Amazing Accomplishment
of Tech Professor

18075

Splitting seconds into a billion parts was the amazing accomplishment announced recently by Prof Paul Heymans, professor of theoretical physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

JUL 6 1925

After a gasp of astonishment that any one could make a measurement so minute, the natural question occurs: What of it? What use will man have for a method of measuring a billionth of a second, or one-hundredth of one-billionth of a second, as Prof Heymans thinks scientists may detect soon?

One of the possible uses suggested by a writer might be to determine the difference in time it would take for two bodies of the same shape, but of different materials, to fall from the same height.

"This would throw tremendous light upon our knowledge of what is inside the earth," says this authority. "For a long time geologists have based their theories on the assumption that all materials fall to the ground from the same height in the same time. But by means of the new instrument, it may be learned that the force of gravity varies in different substances. If it is true that the gravity pull in the earth varies toward different objects, this knowledge would be tremendously important in determining conditions in the interior of the earth, and might prove of great consequence in studies of earthquakes and eruptions."

"Another application of the time-splitting service might be to determine in which mediums electricity travels faster. This would be valuable in designing X-ray tubes where the velocity of electricity must be introduced to make a correct design. Studies might be made, too, of the actual mechanism of the conduction of electricity through solutions. This would prove of immense importance in the electrochemical and electroplating industries."

Apparatus used in these experiments is a modification of one devised by Prof P. O. Pederson at the University of Copenhagen. The measurement is made by employing so-called "Lichtenberg figures," which manifest themselves when an electric wave is reflected from an electrode. When two electrodes are placed side by side at a certain angle and distance, the Lichtenberg figures meet. The position of the meeting line depends upon the time that has elapsed between the times that the electric waves reach the electrodes.

The rate at which these figures are formed is so extremely large that intervals of time from one-thousandth of one-billionth of a second may be detected.—Popular Science Monthly.

GRAND JURY AT DISASTER SCENE

38075

B1

Begins Exhaustive Inquiry Into Fall of Pickwick Club

JUL 6 1925

The Suffolk Grand Jury was summoned this morning and reported at the Courthouse. The first case to come before it was the Pickwick Club disaster and an investigation of it is now under way.

Due to the fact that four of the men on the list cannot serve, more names for the Grand Jury have been requested of City Hall. Two of the jurors on the original list are dead and two others no longer live in this city.

Dennis J. Hart, boxmaker, of 9 Carmel st, Roxbury, and Daniel Shea, contractor, of 16 Schiller st, Roxbury, are dead. Benjamin F. Chamberlin, shoe dealer, formerly of 184 Harvard st, Dorchester, has moved to Hanover, and John F. Sullivan, engineer, formerly of 5 Galena st, Roxbury, has moved to Milton. The jury list follows:

Seymour M. Abraham, foreman, 127 P st, South Boston.

Albert M. Austin, banker, 85 Ocean st, Revere.

Joseph F. Brennan, clerk, 33 Hillside st, Roxbury.

William A. Cruise, motorman, 604 Saratoga st, East Boston.

Jeremiah de Yone, carpenter, 62 Lonsdale st, Dorchester.

John F. Dolan, plasterer, 29 Mt Ida road, Dorchester.

Arthur T. Downey, clerk, 362 Arborway, Forest Hills.

Michael J. Doyle, clerk, 37 Parker Hill av, Roxbury.

Daniel Kelly, clerk, 822 Parker st, Roxbury.

Patrick E. Little, manager, 7 Jackson st, Charlestown.

Henry M. Martin, chauffeur, 135 Francis st, Roxbury.

Patrick H. McGrath, salesman, 30 Leamington road, Brighton.

John McNeice, factory hand, 580 Freeport st, Dorchester.

Carl L. Mittell, vice president, 6 Newosome pk, Roxbury.

Richard J. Neville, salesman, 159 Bradstreet av, Revere.

Matthew T. Patterson, machinist, 25 Trenton st, Charlestown.

Lawrence S. Peck, accountant, 1745 Dorchester av, Dorchester.

John V. Riley, laborer, 686 East 8th st, South Boston.

George T. Tannam, bookkeeper, 15 Magnolia st, Roxbury.

Grand Jurors Visit Ruins B2

The members of the Grand Jury, accompanied by Capt Ainsley C. Armstrong of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Police Commissioner Herbert A. Wilson, arrived at the scene of the disaster at noon and were joined by Mayor Curley, who at that time was superintending the search for more bodies. They then began their investigation of the catastrophe, looking the scene over and asking many questions.

Summonses for 31 Men

Thirty-one men were summoned to appear before the Grand Jury this morning, and several of them had been heard when the members of the jury left for luncheon at the Hotel Bellevue, accompanied by officer George McCaffrey of the district attorney's office and court officer Arthur Crowley. The list of those summoned is as follows:

Secretary of State Frederick W. Cook.
Deputy Chief Edward Shallow.

District Chief Richey.

Joseph A. Tomasello.

Charles R. Gow, architect.

H. M. Haven, architect.

H. E. Hopkins, architect.

Francis I. Mullen, patrolman at Station 4.

Capt Ainsley C. Armstrong of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

Inspector James A. Dennessey.

Augustine J. Gill, police stenographer.

Sergt William Hartigan, Station 4.

Chief Daniel F. Sennott.

Deputy Charles A. Donahue.

Building Commissioner John ...

honey.

Building Inspector James J. Hendicks.

Medical Examiner Timothy Leary.
Nathan Fritz, a Roxbury contractor.
George Funk, architect.
George Funk, architect.
John L. Pultz, contractor.
John Tobin, superintendent for Mr Pultz.
Lawrence J. Perkins, foreman for Pultz.

Charles R. Leary and William J. Reed, foremen for Tomasello.

H. Bloomberg, lessee of the building in which the Pickwick Club was situated.

Engineer Malcolm McIntosh of the Fire Department.

Patrolman Robert J. Dalton of Station 4.

William Glennon of 86 Marcella st, Roxbury, brother of the manager of the club, and leader of its orchestra.

Three men who were at the club on the evening of Friday, July 3, George E. Callahan of 144 D st, South Boston; Rocco Scarpato of 37 London st, East Boston, and Arthur McNeil of 3 Goldsmith st, Jamaica Plain.

FOUR ENGINEERS STUDY RUINS FOR GRAND JURY

During the early morning hours four engineers, representing Dist. Atty O'Brien, made a thorough inspection of the scene of the Pickwick Club disaster. They are making an effort to find out the exact cause of the collapse of the building, so that they can testify at the Grand Jury session today, where the blame should be placed.

They are Guy Emerson, consulting engineer of the Finance Commission; John Lotz, chief construction engineer of Stone & Webster, engineers; J. O. DeWolf, a private consulting engineer, and Bion A. Bowman, consulting engineer of Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, 200 Devonshire st.

All four of them spent the morning in their inspection, but would make no statement to the press what they have discovered. Their work was greatly hampered by the piles of debris and by the fact that, in the effort to get at the dead, almost everything in the place had been moved, so that its line of fall could not be determined exactly.

GLOBE - JU 4 Y - 6 - 1925

Huge Crowd Tries to Watch Search For Bodies—May Be Finished by 7 A. M.

2075 JUL 6 1925

Relatives of Missing Still Besiege the Morgue—13 Injured at City Hospital

At the Globe's hour of going to press the toll of known dead in the Pickwick Club disaster stood at 41. Of this number 35 had been officially identified.

Shortly before 1 o'clock two bodies were located in the wreckage. One was found through a hand showing above the debris. More than five feet of digging through almost solid matter was necessary to get the body out.

Fire Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn still estimated the number of dead at about 50. Thomas A. Elston, the wrecking contractor, believed the ruins would be cleared by 7 o'clock this morning.

Should the loss of life reach Mr Glynn's estimate, it will exceed that of any disaster in Boston's history.

By FRANK P. SIBLEY

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, the bodies of 19 persons had been recovered from the ruins of the Pickwick Club, whose building at 6 Beach st collapsed at 2:35 Saturday morning. Eighteen of the bodies had been identified, and 17 had been delivered to relatives.

At 6 o'clock another body, that of a man, was brought in, and within the next hour four more men's bodies had been added to the ghastly score

of the tragedy.

During the evening still more bodies were found, for the workers reached that part of the ruins where the people who never had a chance to move were tumbled in an indiscriminate heap.

The five men who were brought in just before sundown were found at the place where Mrs Edith Jordan of Somerville lay for nine hours on Saturday while men tore at the ruins to get her out. She died within 10 minutes of her arrival at the hospital.

She had told the rescuers that two men were lying across her legs, dead, and that many others were close by. Yesterday afternoon it was said that the five men found close together had been seated at the table with Mrs Jordan just before the building collapsed.

Work Has Never Ceased

Work has never ceased on the tangled mass of debris since the building came down, except for the short intervals when one gang had quit work and the relief gang had not yet come on. At first, it was emergency work, desperate clawing at the ruins, even with the bare hands, on the slightest chance to save lives. But after Mrs Jordan had been taken out, no more sounds were heard, and no more living were found.

The city firemen and policemen had done most of the work up to that time—Saturday noon—and had amazed everybody by their sheer daring.

building was still standing. The roof and the fourth floor lay on the ceiling of the Pickwick Club room. Piano and desk still stood against the rear wall of the club, and the brick wall at the back still held its windowed shaky skeleton aloft, dangerously.

Beside the Tomasello steam shovel in the excavation now stood one of John Coleman's revolving cranes. One of the city's cranes was on Beach st near the southwestern corner of the wrecked building, and a service of trucks to carry away debris was already provided.

A mound of rubbish lay on the floor of the Pickwick Club, and a smaller mound on what was left of the ground floor. It seemed as if both of them must contain the bodies of some of the dead.

Pulling in the Wall A3

Mr Elston's first work was to topple the brick wall at the back inward. It was a ticklish job, for too stout a pull, or any jerking on the cable, would send it outward into the alley and very possibly bring down another disaster in the Olympia Theatre, where underpinning has been undercut in the excavation work.

Timbers were sent up and placed carefully; loose brick was gingerly removed and tossed down, and the window frames on the west wall were pried out. The workmen below were driven back to safety; a great quiet fell on the place, so that the foreman could be clearly heard calling to the truck driver who was to pull the wall over—"Keep a steady strain!"

In it came, with a great roar and a tremendous swirl of lime-dust; the upper floor, on which most of the wall fell, stood the impact without going down. A cascade of loose bricks poured over the edge, and down into the pit whence they must be removed by hand, two bricks at a time.

Then the workmen came back, and the endless job of twitching the great beams and the occasional iron girders, the heavy radiators and the sections of flooring which hung together, began again.

Sallies Open Lunch Room A4

Across Beach st, in an alley, the motor trucks waited with their baskets to hold the dead bodies. The Salvation Army people opened a lunchroom in a vacant store and made the workers welcome to simple, sustaining food. Beside the moving motors stood the emergency

Construction

JULY 6-1925

ing and apparent ability to go on hour after hour with strength and speed undiminished.

When it was decided, however, that the last of the living was out, Thomas A. Elston, the veteran building wrecker, took charge. He promptly decided that men's lives should not be risked to dig out the bodies of those already dead, and set about the work of making the ruins safe to work in.

Find 14 More Bodies

He pulled down the shaking front wall of the building; he hauled the square sections of roof and floors, slanting perilously down, off the ruins; he wrenched timbers and planks out of the tangle, leaving mostly bricks and smaller lumber for the workmen to handle during the night.



PATRICK J. GLAVIN,
Dorchester Man Killed.

As each great slab of flooring tilted over to the pull of the cranes, or slid from the top of the pile, people dreaded to see what might be disclosed. But all through the long, strenuous afternoon and the early hours of evening, no bodies were found.

At midnight Mayor Curley placed John J. Sullivan, who is known as the youngest building wrecker in this country, in charge of the work. Before 8 o'clock Mr Sullivan and his men had found 14 bodies, all but one the bodies of men, and many of them close together beneath a section of metal ceiling.

The Boston Elevated sent a gang of 100 workers to the ruins shortly after midnight, and to them fell the task of getting these 14 bodies out in the sombre night, whose drizzle changed to downright rain before daylight.

Horribly Mutilated

The horrors of that finding cannot be told, for the injuries and mutilations were shocking beyond descriptions. The closing trap of death had caught them in all sorts of positions and had played all sorts of grawsome tricks on the victims. Many of them lay face down in the ruins; one man's body was slung round a pillar like a cast of line. A boxer, to judge by the marks opponents had left on his head, was found in a perfect attitude of defense, his hands raised against blow and his head turned aside.

One body was headless; another was cut almost in halves. Four men were found still sitting round the table where disaster had caught them. They had never stirred from their chairs.

When Morning Came

When the morning came it was marvelous that they could stoop down at all. But they did, and bent and rose rhythmically, and the bricks came up with them.

The discovery seemed to excite them, and they worked furiously, as if there was a life at stake which they might by haste still save. The crowd in Beach st nearly overpowered the policemen, trying to jump down into the excavation for a nearer sight of the dead. Workmen over the mound of debris stopped shoveling, and crowded down around the diggers.

More Bodies Found

As the body was swiftly cleared of the rubbish in which it lay, first a wrist-bag was found; then a handkerchief; then a man's shoe. It was 30 minutes of panting work in the flying dust before the body was freed and laid in the undertaker's basket.

The cover was strapped on before the morbid could get a glimpse of the poor, crushed body, and the basket was swiftly passed through a double line of men and up to the street.

Ten minutes later a second body was cleared, and at the same time three more bodies were discerned. They were all lying in an indiscriminate heap, one on another. By several tokens it became known that these were the men who had sat at the table with Mrs Jordan.

The bodies came now every few minutes, and the baskets seemed to be coming down and being soberly thrust up again in almost a steady stream. Before 10 o'clock the total of known dead had risen to 36.

Mr Elston said during the afternoon that he could complete the job of cleaning up the ruins by 7 a.m. today, and Commissioner Glynn felt confident that the last of the bodies would be reached before noon.

In the meantime the various inquiries as to probable causes of the disaster and possible responsibility for it were pressed all day long.

Commissioner Mahoney had his own investigation under way; Mayor Curley declared that he had no knowledge that any complaints had come to the Building Department that the Pickwick Club was unsafe.

Dist Atty O'Brien sent in the afternoon for consulting engineers to get expert testimony for the Grand Jury, to which he is to present the inquiry this morning. Guy C. Emerson, the Finance Commission's engineer; Charles T. Main and Mr Lutz and Mr Bowman were some of the men he asked to come, and Mr Emerson was one of the first to get there.

The engineer declared that no blame could be placed until a study of the foundation of the building becomes possible. He was much interested in the mute testimony of a long slanting scratch on the bricks of the Olympia Theatre wall at the rear, made by some falling beam or iron girder from the front building. Its course is outward, from top to bottom, and Mr Emerson said this does not check up with the other facts so far presented.

Huge Crowd Sees Little

Capt Herbert W. Goodwin, commanding Division 4 in the LaGrange station, said yesterday that he has had no conference with Police Commissioner Wilson regarding the sale of liquor in the Pickwick Club. He said that so far as his men could find out, no liquor was kept on the premises or sold by the proprietors, though one of the waiters had been in court on liquor charges. Capt Goodwin also said that he has never been asked to do the legal investigating of the proprietors of the club by way of seeing whether they should be granted a State charter of incorporation.

IDENTIFICATION OF ALL BUT TWO

1925
JULY 6
GEORGE

E 1

Last Rubbush Heap Searched At 12.30 This Afternoon

Forty-three persons were killed when the Pickwick Club Building collapsed, about 3 a m Saturday. Eighteen more persons were seriously enough hurt so that they were kept at the hospital; of these 13 are still in hospital, some of them in dangerous condition.

Medical Examiner Timothy Leary reported a corrected list of victims of the catastrophe to Police Headquarters officials this afternoon. The list contains 41 identified persons and two unidentified men, of whom descriptions were given.

Dr Leary has given orders to attaches at the City Hospital Mortuary to deliver bodies of victims to undertakers representing the families and near relatives of the victims as expeditiously as possible, when request for them is made.

Last Rubbish Heap Searched

The final death roll figures were established at 12:30 this afternoon, when the straining tackles hauled clear the last section of flooring which could possibly conceal bodies.

It was a section of the third floor, which hung by its inner corner and drooped down over that corner of the Pickwick Club room where the piano and a rolltop desk still stand against the wall. As the floor boards split and gave, the whole 40-foot square slid forward into the gulf. Tables, crushed chairs, a table cloth, a tub with artificial plants in it, slid down the linoleum covering of the dancing floor.

The little checkroom and its placard came into view; the curtained door swung idly open, and the paneled sheathing round the elevator well toppled over.

There was a little heap of rubbish on the floor. Firemen came slithering down the steep slope, tossing chairs and tables out into space. In two minutes the rubbish was searched. There was nothing—the floor was over and the tally com-

Four Bodies Found Today

The last of the dead were found in the hours before daylight this morning. Just after 1 a m, the workmen in the trench outside the east wall of the collapsed building came upon a man's arm sticking out of the rubbish. It was nearly four hours before the four bodies which lay close together there could be

freed and brought out. Two of them were those of Francis J. Driscoll of Roxbury, a man well known in labor circles, and Miss Clara M. Frederick of West Roxbury. The other two bodies were of men, not immediately identified.

At 5 a m the trench had gone to the limit of possibility of disclosure. Only the casual rubbish heaps and the hanging, slanting floors could conceal any more bodies. The day shifts, coming on duty, set about tearing away the last of the hanging ruins, and shortly after noon the work was finished.

Neighbor Buildings Closed

Three hours earlier the "locking the stable door" precautions were begun; the Building Commissioner ordered the occupants out of the adjoining buildings.

its unprotected eastern wall, which was the western wall of the Pickwick Club's building, could be assured. This wall was so visibly weak that yesterday long timbers were strapped to it as a precaution.

The Olympia Theatre, which juts out beyond the rear of the Pickwick Club building, and which has a rear corner foundation hanging over the excavation pit, was also ordered to be kept closed. These orders were given by Building Commissioner Mahoney, whose anxious face has been one of the saddest sights about the great tragedy's stage.

Mayor Curley and Mrs Curley came back this morning, to the

C 603E - JULY 6 - 1925

Commissioner and Chief Sennott assured him that there is not the slightest likelihood that any more bodies would be found. Mayor Curley ordered before he went away that the Pickwick Club building should be cleared off the land to the last brick.

Grand Jurors March In

At the same time the investigations began, three of them at once. Shortly before noon the Grand Jury, in charge of bailiffs carrying white staves, marched into the disaster area. Capt Ainsley C. Armstrong of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation showed them the general situation. Chief Daniel F. Sennott and Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn of the Fire Department, the two men who have been right in the heart of the rescue work and who have done much of it with their own hands, told the story of the catastrophe to the grand jurors, who went down into the excavation, the better to see and understand.

The district attorney, Thomas C. O'Brien, was in charge of the Grand Jury party, and he had with it Inspector James Dennessy of Station 4, patrolman George C. McCaffrey of his own office, Asst Dist Atty Maurice Caro and George Alpert, court officers John B. Cadigan and Arthur Crowley, and Miss Mary Mullowney, his stenographer.

Guy C. Emerson, consulting engineer for the city, accompanied the party and pointed out some of the evidence, notably the long scratch on the brick wall of the theatre at the rear.

Gov Fuller's Inquiry Board

Gov Fuller came to the ruins this morning, and later sent down his own inquiry commission, consisting of Atty Gen Benton, Asst Atty Gen Goldberg and John Mitchell, the police inspector who has been assigned to the Attorney General's office.

The crowd of the morbidly curious was larger than ever this morning, but the police, who have handled this task admirably, did not allow anybody to stop on Washington st at the end of Beach st, and never for a moment let the traffic clot up or congest there. Everybody had to keep moving.

All through the morning handbags, handkerchiefs, shoes, jewels and personal belongings of all sorts were found in the ruins. Almost the last thing to turn up, when the covering floor was pulled away, was the lease from Harry Bloomberg of Brookline to Louis Charm and Hyman Wein-

com
entire
1/24
year

July 6-1921

stein of Dorchester, of the third floor of the building, the floor over the Pickwick Club room. The lease ran from Feb 10, 1925, for one year and specified that the premises were let for "light manufacturing purposes."

Francis J. Driscoll's Body E4

A body found today was that of Francis J. Driscoll of 7 Copeland st., Roxbury, who was identified through a blue union card in his pocket. He was a business agent for the Plasterers' Union and had gone to the club to meet another union official in regard to a conference which he was to attend next month in the West, according to his sister, Miss Marion G. Driscoll.

Miss Driscoll stated that her brother had left their home Friday night to go to the club to meet the labor official. She stated that he had usually spent his week-ends at Nantasket, and she thought at first, when she did not hear from him, that he had gone to Nantasket.

Driscoll Named for High Office

Mr Driscoll was appointed Superintendent of Public Buildings by Mayor Curley about six months ago, but was among the many who were turned down by the Civil Service Commission. He had resided in South Boston, Dorchester and Roxbury. He was well known in labor circles, and about a month ago had been appointed on the Arbitration Board of the Building Trades controversy. He was a member of the Boston Lodge of Elks, and is survived by his father, Edward Driscoll; a sister, Miss Marion G. Driscoll, and a brother, Edward M. Driscoll, a musician.

Miss Clara M. Frederick, 39, of 205 Park st, West Roxbury, another victim of the Pickwick Club disaster, whose body was recovered early this morning, was an instructor and eyeglass case worker in Jamaica Plain. She formerly resided in South Boston. She is survived by her father and mother and three sisters and a brother.

Evidences of Celebration E5

All night long, while the men were working, mute evidences of the "night-before" celebration were upturned with bricks, wire, concrete and chunks of lime. These evidences consisted of broken bottles, women's bags, clothing and money—and were turned over to police officers, who later gave the personal articles to the medical examiner.

Shortly after 7 a m a gray silk bag with steel beads was found in the ruins. It contained a powder puff, a

small mirror and a handkerchief. There was blood on the bottom of the bag.

A Waltham wrist watch with a gray silk strap was found bearing the number 163,293 on its works. It had a 14-carat gold case and 15-jewel works.

A Dreyfus cafe brass check, No. 64, and a pair of glasses with gold rims and bows were also found. They were not broken.

John F. Murphy a Noted Singer

John F. Murphy, 23, of 146 Hillside st, Roxbury, positively identified early this morning at the Southern Mortuary by his father, Daniel Murphy, had been identified previously by friends through a description of his clothing. He was well known as a singer and entertainer, and was a member of the John Eliot Club of Roxbury. In company with "Bubber" Murray, a singer, who was also killed; Arthur McNeil, a singer, of Goldsmith st, Jamaica Plain, and a man named Campbell, also of Jamaica Plain, Murphy had gone to the Pickwick Club and had arrived about 2 a m.

Joseph Murphy, 27, a brother of John, also met with the others at the John Eliot Club and after deciding it was too late to go to any beach, had gone home, while the rest went to the Pickwick Club upon suggestion of one of the four.

McNeil and Camphill escaped from
later seen him in the rear of the hall talking with two young women. He himself was also talking with a girl but was in the front part of the hall and near the stairway when the crash came. He took the girl, whom he does not know, down the stairway and to the street and has not seen her since.

John Murphy is survived by a sister, his father and a brother. He was a traveling salesman and had formerly resided at Highland st, Roxbury.

The Murphy family is well known in the John Eliot-sq section. Both Murphy and Murray are well known as singers and entertainers and have appeared at many church affairs and social events in Greater Boston.

July 7-1921

COOK DENIES RESPONSIBILITY

Secretary of State Resents Imputation

No Record in His Office of the Pickwick Club ✓

GLOBE

Explains Chartering of Commercial Men's Club

7/6 - L 715

A statement was issued yesterday by Secretary of State Frederic W. Cook, showing that the Pickwick Club has no legal status, so far as his office is concerned, and resenting any imputation that he might be indirectly responsible for conditions at the club. Mr Cook's statement follows:

"Any attempt to divert to the office of the Secretary of State the responsibility for continued occupancy of an unsafe building, because it was supposed to be occupied by a chartered corporation, is not only ridiculous but dastardly. This office has absolutely no connection with the matter.

"There is no record in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of the Pickwick Club, Inc., nor of the Greenwich Village Club. It appears of record that the Commercial Men's Club, Inc., was organized at 6 Beach st, Boston, Mass, Feb 28, 1924, composed of the following incorporators: Louis Rosenfield, whose residence is given in said organization papers as 879 Beacon st, Boston; Max Pilder, 726-739 Washington st (no city given); Francis J. Nevins, 248 Nevada st, Newton; Edward F. Powers, 153 Warren av (no city given); Keron F. Clemens, Sagamore, Mass; James B. Troy, 230 Huntington av (no city given), and Joshua Paine, Provincetown, Mass. The officers named in said application are: Edward F. Powers, president; Francis J. Nevins, treasurer, and Keron F. Clemens, clerk, all of whom are likewise elected as directors.

Referred to Police

"The application was submitted to the office of the commissioner of corporations and taxation March 6, 1924, and on that date received his former approval, in accordance with the requirements of Sections 1, 2 and 3 of Chapter 180, Section 9 of Chapter 155 and Sections 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Chapter 156 of the General Laws, whereupon the application was filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the statement required by Section 5 of said Chapter 180 was forwarded March 13, 1924, to the police commissioner for the city of Boston for an investigation of the proposed incorporators.

"Under date of March 18, 1924, the police commissioner reported it appears from information received by police investigation that none of the proposed incorporators have been engaged in the illegal selling of intoxicating liquors or in keeping or maintaining places or tenements used for the purpose of illegal gaming, nor have they been engaged in any other business or violation prohibited by law.

"The report thereon being favorable a charter was issued March 20, 1924, and mailed to its attorney, Thomas C. Creed, 43 Tremont st, Boston. Application for a change of name and title ever reached the office of the



LOOKING INTO THE RUINS OF ONE OF THE WORST BUILDING WRECKS BOSTON HAS EVER KNOWN

All that was left of the ill-fated Pickwick Club on Beach street where a merry July 4th party was in progress when, without warning, the structure collapsed burying scores of men and women beneath the debris. Even the firemen and police, used to scenes of stress, were unnerved by the sight that greeted them as they rushed to the rescue. With the cries of the injured spurring them on the rescuers dug and battered their way into the heap of ruins, and although exhausted kept at their task of reaching the victims. The photo shows the ruins as they look from Beach street toward Washington.

Herald - July 9
D261



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SLOWLY AND ALMOST INCH BY INCH THE RESCUERS BATTERED AND DUG THEIR WAY TO PICKWICK VICTIMS

The scene that met the eyes of the rescuers as they made their way into the ruins of the club from Beach street. Tons of brick, plaster, shattered timbers and twisted iron work, under which lay the dead and injured, made a task that seemed almost impossible. Firemen, police and laborers worked frantically at the pile of debris, pausing for a moment only to gaze sympathetically as the bodies of the victims were carried to the waiting ambulances.

AMERICAN - JULY 6-1923

MAYOR CALLS CITY HEADS IN CONFERENCE

Every city department has been ordered by Mayor Curley to be in readiness to assist in recovering bodies from the Pickwick Club ruins.

He personally directed the work from late Saturday night until, exhausted, he was forced to return to his home yesterday. His secretary, John Mahoney, remained on the scene, the mayor placing at his disposal all the city's equipment.

The mayor also detailed 200 laborers from the public works department to assist in the work. One hundred of them entered the ruins to assist the firemen at noon yesterday and worked without pause until nine o'clock last night.

They were relieved by another squad of equal number who continued to work until 6 a. m. and were relieved by 200 men, who, it is expected, will complete the task of removing the tangled mass of bloody wreckage.

The Boston Elevated, which responded in the emergency with crews of men and huge jacks to hold up tottering timbers during the early stages of rescue work, has notified the Mayor that it will have more crews in readiness for action at any time the city wants them.

Heads of all city departments have been ordered by Mayor Curley to confer with him this morning on the Pickwick Club catastrophe. The mayor will issue a statement following the conference.

To help determine the cause of the Pickwick Club collapse District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien has obtained the services of a half dozen or more of Boston's leading constructional and architectural engineers to study the ruins.

Among those employed to place possible blame are Guy C. Emerson, consulting engineer for the Finance Commission; John O. DeWolf, mill and architectural engineer with offices in Bromfield street; Mr. Lutz, chief engineer for Stone & Webster Company, and Mr. Bowman of Fay, Thorndike & Spalding.

"For the present, we are endeavoring to ascertain whether any fault lies with the foundation of the building," Engineer Emerison said today. "With the uncovering of the foundation wall the engineers will look it over for possible defects.

"There are any number of speculations being made as to just what would be unfair to advance at this time. It is too early to advance an opinion.

Emerald 8 1925

1387 Emerson is in no way acting in the interests of the Finance Com.

... of the Finance Com-
mission. Already he has surveyed

19. The following table gives the number of deaths from smallpox in the United States during the year 1800.

MAYOR INSPECTS RUINS

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Mayor Curley today visited the ruins of the collapsed building in which the Pickwick Club had its quarters and went over the interior, taking any chance of injury there might be.

ADJOINING BUILDINGS ARE ORDERED CLOSED

JUL 6 1925

-3807E

Theatre, Three Stores and Restaurant Endangered

By Pickwick Club Excavation

F2

As a precaution against any further

As a precaution against any further accidents, Building Commissioner Stephen Mahoney today ordered the buildings adjoining the ill-fated Flickwick Club Building vacated until further notice, until a thorough examination can be made of their walls and foundations and their safety can be determined. These buildings include Gordon's Wash-

that it would be tomorrow or Wednesday before the examination of the walls and foundations could be completed and weak spots supported sufficiently to permit the reopening of these places of business. The walls directly adjoining the excavation and the ruins and their foundations are exposed for a distance in some cases of 20 feet below the normal surface of the ground.

ington-st Olympia, which has a large wall area facing on the excavation into which the Pickwick Club fell with its ill-starred dancers, and the theatre has been closed.

Other firms affected by this order of Building Commissioner Mahoney include Murray-Bernard, Clothiers, 662 Washington st., the Boylston Optical Company, 664 Washington st., the Spen-
sers Company, 666 Washington

July 6 - '25

TELEGRAM - JULY 6-1925

Fix the Blame for Boston Most Disgraceful Disaster.



MAYOR CURLEY

RESPECT for the dead—
half a hundred or more—
justice to the living and jeal-
ousy for the good name of their
home city and their capital city
would seem to demand that the
people of Boston and their
fellow-citizens throughout the
Commonwealth unite in an
honest and fearless determina-
tion to bring before the bar of
justice those chiefly to blame
for this disaster and to bring
before the bar of public opinion every official—
municipal, county or State—who attempts to draw
a red herring across the trail of the investi-
gation.

1925
JULY 6
BOSTON EVENING AMERICAN



GOVERNOR FULLER

TO THE District Attorney
for Suffolk County, to the
Mayor of Boston and to the
Governor of Massachusetts the
people have a right to look
for an immediate investigation
and for prompt action in the
light of all the facts.

The Boston Evening Amer-
ican hopes that the people will
not look in vain.

"Government is protec-
tion" reads the shortest defini-
tion of government extant. That which fails to pro-
tect the people is not government—it is travesty on
government, as District Attorney O'Brien, Mayor
Curley and Governor Fuller know full well.

Mayor of Boston Should Be Called Before Grand Jury

District Attorney, ask James Michael Curley before you question anybody else if you are seeking to fix responsibility for the Pickwick "Club" horror.

Mayor Curley, is the proper inspection of buildings and of building operations a department within your province?

If the answer to that question is "Yes," and it must be, then it is unnecessary to look any further for the man who by this time should have every bit of information essential to inquiry into the cause of the disaster.

Witnesses summonsed by Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien to appear at 10 o'clock this morning before the Suffolk county grand jury included: Chief Daniel F. Sennott of the fire department, Deputy Chief Edward J. Shallow, District Chief Charles A. Donohue, John Plutz, contractor; Nathan Fritz, another contractor; Joseph Tomassello, sub-contractor; District Inspector James Hendricks of the building department, and Building Commissioner John Mahony.

The Telegram takes the position that Mayor Curley also should be required to answer any questions the grand jury may desire to ask, and the grand jury will have many questions to ask if it does its duty.

The mayor has been very free with his threats to close up various halls and meeting places. The doomed building had as its tenants some of the mayor's closest political associates who sought to capitalize "night life" in Boston.

Will it be denied that membership cards in the so-called Pickwick club were typed on City Hall typewriters?

Let the mayor, first of all, tell what he knows, and all that he knows, about the circumstances surrounding this horrible disaster.

Then let his man, John Mahony, be heard from, and this Hendricks, and the others, but first of all let the mayor be heard from.

INSIDE STORY TELEGRAM OF BIG ROW ON SCHOOL WORK

JULY 6 1925
Mayor Curley has quit cold on the discharge of Schoolhouse Commr. James J. Mahar, whom he informally "fired" last Thursday afternoon, following the flat refusal of Mahar to do the bidding of Curley or Thomas P. Glynn, whose re-appointment as a school-

JULY 6-1925
civil service commission.

"You're removed!" were the significant words which Curley shouted at Mahar. Verbal announcement that an official is "fired" from the Curley municipal organization does not quite comply with legal requirements. Formal notice must be served upon the incumbent.

Up to 2 o'clock this afternoon no formal notice of discharge had reached Mahar and the vehement denial made by Curley Friday of the story of Mahar's discharge evidently means the mayor has quit cold.

Regardless of the official denial, it is said in political circles that Mahar was bluntly told Thursday afternoon, "You're removed."

To all appearances he had been "fired," but like a lot of other discharges talked about during the Curley administration, this one failed to formally and legally materialize.

Schoolhouse Commr. Mahar has a reputation for honesty, integrity and above-board dealing which is

reinforced by his former Curley appointments.

Mahar has acquired repute for being on the level and his refusal to deviate from the honest policy to which he has adhered is ascribed as the reason for the sudden complications with Glynn and Curley.

Mahar is a graduate of the Institute of Technology and knows certain phases of building construction from the standpoint of a practical and experienced engineer.

According to Mahar's friends, there has been some apprehension about the legality of the contracts distributed by Glynn since the expiration of his term and the refusal of the Civil Service Commission to place the stamp of approval upon him.

In order to make sure of the legality of the contracts it was pointed out to Mahar that he could meet with Clarence H. Blackall of Cambridge, whose residence according to a recent official record is Cambridge, and have himself elected acting chairman of the commission. Mahar's official rating is that of vice-chairman, and Blackall is rated as secretary of the commission.

It was pointed out to Mahar that as acting chairman he could ratify the award of contracts made by Glynn. Mahar was not as easily handled as had been anticipated. He refused point blank to enter into any such agreement.

Mahar was thereupon ordered to present himself at Curley's office. It was rumored that Glynn was also among those present. When Mahar reiterated his refusal to have himself elected acting chairman and approve contracts already distributed to favored supplicants for such work as repairs upon schoolhouses, which are much sought by those who know how to obtain them, he was told by Mayor Curley that he was removed.

Mahar thought the mayor was in earnest and he immediately bade goodbye to the attaches of the commission's office. But Friday noon the mayor characterized as a deliberate falsehood the story printed in The Telegram of Mahar's removal.

That was less than 24 hours after Curley had said to Mahar: "You're removed."

The Pickwick Club catastrophe will doubtless be regarded as of sufficient importance to temporarily sidetrack the sudden removal of Mahar and the equally sudden restoration of the schoolhouse commissioners to apparent good standing.

TRAVELER - JULY 6-1925

TWO MORE BODIES FOUND IN RUINS; CLUB DEAD NOW 43

JULY 6 1925

Fifteen or Twenty More Are Believed to
Be Still Buried Under Mass of Bricks,
Mortar and Timbers ✓

TELEGRAM - JULY 6-1925

Make Curley and Mahar Tell the Real Plain Truth

Here's a problem for the Finance Commission to solve and it
should not be very hard.

JULY 6 1925

James T. Mahar was fired from the Boston Schoolhouse
Commission, by Mayor Curley last Thursday.

The Telegram printed the story, giving the facts, notwithstanding a very carefully prepared statement from Mayor James M. Curley denying that Mahar was through.

Charges were made that Mahar was approached time and again by architects seeking the inside track on city work.

Mr. Mahar, at the time of his dismissal said to The Telegram:

"I won't stand for any dishonesty. I propose that city business with which I have anything to do shall be square and above-board. I'd rather be discharged than to mix into any deal that was not."

TELEGRAM

Mayor Curley, hours later in a statement to the press said:

"I regard Mr. Mahar as a highly efficient and eminently capable public official. Mr. Mahar has neither tendered his resignation nor can I conceive of any good reason for his removal."

The mayor's statement was issued about 18 hours after Mr. Mahar cleaned out his desk in his office on the tenth floor of the City Hall Annex, bade good bye to his co-workers and told them he was through.

The facts are there. It is up to the Finance commission to get at the bottom of the matter and bring out the truth. If there has been anything "fishy" now is the time to bring it to the surface.

The Finance commission is bound to call Mayor Curley and Mr. Mahar, put them under oath and get the truth.

Gov. Fuller Prepares
for Action in Pick-
wick Case

While the grand jury was viewing the scene of the Pickwick Club horror today, Gov. Fuller announced his intention of taking a hand in the investigation.

The extent of the Governor's action in behalf of the commonwealth will be based upon reports submitted to him by other state officials. Atty.-Gen. Jay R. Benton has already submitted a preliminary report to the Governor.

FOOTE MAKES REPORT

Blame for the accident is placed upon officials of the building department of the city of Boston, in a report submitted to Gov. Fuller by Brig.-Gen. Foote, commissioner of public safety, this afternoon. Commissioner Foote declares, in effect, that the building officials had ample opportunity to act and that if the inspection of the property had been thorough there might have been no such disaster, or a lower

July 7 '25

TELEGRAM - JU4Y-7-1925

TELEGRAM Inspector Told Not to Come Back Until He Finds Real Owner of Death Dive

With orders not to return until he had accomplished his mission, Inspector James A. Dorsey of headquarters was today detailed to find the real owner, the "man higher up" of the Pickwick club. Dist. Atty. O'Brien wants this man before the grand jury.

Dorsey was detailed with instructions to find the real owners regardless of how long a time it took to do so. He was told not to come back empty-handed.

Several men have been advanced, in the past, as "owners" of the club. Mystery has surrounded this phase of Boston's night life. The real owners' names have not been brought to light, it is declared.

City Censor John M. Casey was called early indictments would follow. Dancing is now said to have been a contributory cause to the collapse of the building.

The grand jury will hold another night session tonight, it was announced at 3 o'clock.

For three hours Building Commr. John H. Mahony was on the witness stand before the jury. Inspector James J. Hendrick of the building department, in whose jurisdiction the ill-fated club was located, was also grilled.

Both officials are under the orders of Mayor James M. Curley. State Commissioner of Public Safety Alfred F. Foote pinned the blame squarely on Curley, Mahony and Hendrick.

"The mayor, building commissioner and building inspector had ample authority under the law to protect the public against this catastrophe," Foote declared.

Breaking all precedent by continuing in session until midnight, the jury showed every indication of effecting a speedy finish of the probe. Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien was assisted by Asst. Dist. Attys. George Alpert and Maurice Caro.

Despite the open charge of Commr. of Public Safety Foote that the mayor, building commissioner and building inspector of Boston were responsible for failure to protect visitors at the Pickwick club from death, none of these officials offered any defense.

The Telegram drew down on itself abuse for its stories in which the mayor and his officials were held accountable for the tragedy. Language unfit to even intimate was wafted over wires to The Telegram from men saying, "I'm at City Hall!"

Workmen today resumed their work on the club ruins on Beach st.

A total of 43 bodies were taken from the wreckage. This, according to Fire Commr. Theodore A. Glynn, is the total list of dead. However,

through the ruins remains unaccountable lost by the victims.

It is no secret that soap-box politicians throughout the city are watching the grand jury proceedings with misgivings. From City Hall, in particular, lynx-eyed "gen-uflectors" have been constant attendants in the courthouse.

"Where will it hit?" is the question they are asking each other.

Miss Mildred McGilvray of 36 Shawmut st., Revere, was one of the many witnesses to be called before the grand jury at today's session. She was miraculously saved from death when the building crashed by being pushed down a flight of stairs.

Mahony carried a multitude of charts of the Pickwick club building when he went into the jury room.

Mahony was summoned from his home at about 9 o'clock on a telephone message from Inspector James A. Dennessy, head of the homicide squad.

James J. Hendrick, the building inspector for the city of Boston, who declared on Thursday last that the club building was "absolutely safe," preceded Comr. Mahony in the grand jury room. He was in there for several hours.

Among the witnesses who will testify today are Timothy Barry, treasurer of the Pickwick club, Martin Kane, city inspector who supervised the cement construction of the foundation of the building next to the club, and Earl Davis, colored porter. The latter is said to be an important witness.

Considerable significance is attached to the calling in of Wilbur F. Turner, the handwriting expert, into the case, it is said. Turner specializes in making examinations of forged signatures. It is believed that he will examine the club's charter and certificates issued for repairs to the building.

Co-incident with the grand jury investigation, it was learned by a Telegram reporter that the floor of the club was covered with two inches of water on June 29. Whether or not the water weakened the structure in any way has not been determined.

Dist.-Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien is in close touch with engineers, and it is expected that at least three will be called to testify as to the cause of the collapse of the building. Asst. Dist.-Attys. George Alpert and Maurice Caro have been assisting O'Brien in gathering evidence for presentation to the grand jurors.

TRANSCRIPT - JU4Y-9-1925
COLLECTED 4790 DOGS IN YEAR

TRANSCRIPT
Animal Rescue League Submits Annual Report to the Mayor

During the year from July 1, 1924, to July 1, 1925, the Animal Rescue League collected in the city of Boston 4790 dogs, this number including all dogs known to the organization as unlicensed. The number of dogs redeemed by owners who took out licenses was 270. The report, made to Mayor Curley, is signed by Frank J. Gallivan, Julian Codman and Henry Merwin.

FOOTE SAYS IT WAS UP TO CITY

**Quotes Inspection of
Buildings Law**

**City Officials Had Full Power,
He Tells Governor**

GLOBE
**Can't See Why Weakness
Was Not Discovered**

In a report which Gov Fuller had directed him to make after an investigation of the Pickwick Club disaster, Gen Alfred F. Foote, State Commissioner of Public Safety, stated yesterday:

"Inasmuch as the building commissioner of Boston, presumably by his authorized inspector for that district, had made his inspection of the building with a view to granting a permit to repair the damage done by the fire, it would seem to me that this very fact warranted the most thorough inspection. Had such an inspection been given, I fail to see why the structural weaknesses, which, alas, seem to have existed, were not ascertained, and in which case the law should have been invoked to order the premises vacated and the street closed, and such other necessary steps taken as would have made this catastrophe at least less terrible in loss of life, if not quite impossible of occurrence."

The report of Gen Foote to the Governor is as follows:

"Early on the morning of July 4, the building at 6-12 Beach st, occupied by a club known as the Pickwick Club, collapsed. Up to this time it is said that 43 persons lost their lives.

Fire Occurred April 13

"This was a five-story, second-class building, approximately 45 feet front and 65 feet deep. On April 13 there was a fire in the building. The estimated damage to the building was \$3000. Soon after application was made to the Building Commissioner of Boston for a permit to repair and reconstruct this building.

"This was issued by the Boston Building Department and the repairs were begun.

"It is impossible at this time to arrive fairly at any decision as to what type of structural weakness caused the collapse.

"The law applicable in this case is a special law made for the city of Boston. In this connection it is desired to state that Boston is excepted from the building laws of the whole State; and in their stead there was made and passed a law governing all these matters so far as Boston is concerned, placing the responsibility upon the Building Commissioner of Boston and the Mayor of Boston.

Many amendments. All matters pertaining to the erection, repair, alteration and inspection of buildings come under the Building Commissioner for the city of Boston.

"Some part of the duties of the Building Commissioner of Boston and the Mayor of Boston are contained in Chapter 143, General Laws, these being the matters that pertain more especially to places of public assembly and the like. The provisions of Chapter 143 are, however, not applicable to this situation.

Boston Building Law

"The following quotations of law are from the building law of the city of Boston:

"Par 1, Sec 3—The commissioner (Boston Building Commissioner) or one of his inspectors shall examine any buildings reported as dangerous or damaged, and shall make a record of such examination, stating the nature and estimated amount of this damage and the purpose for which the building is used, and in case of fire the probable origin thereof; and shall examine all buildings in respect to which examinations have been made for permission to raze, alter or repair, and shall make a record of every such examination."

"Par 2, Sec 4—The commissioner (Boston Building Commissioner) may, with the written approval of the Mayor, order any building which, in his opinion is unsafe and not provided with sufficient means of egress in case of fire or exits, in violation of any provision of this act, to be vacated forthwith."

"Paragraph 1, Section 5—If the public so requires, the commissioner, with the approval of the Mayor, may at once enter the building or other structure which he finds unsafe or dangerous, the land on which it stands, or the abutting land or buildings with such assistance as he may require, and secure or remove the same and may erect such protection for the public by proper fence or otherwise, as may be necessary, and for this purpose may close up a high way."

Had Ample Authority

"Paragraph 2, Section 12—Every structure in process of construction, alteration, repair or removal, and every neighboring construction or portion thereof affected by such process or by any excavation shall be sufficiently supported during such process."

"Paragraph 3, Section 12—The commission may take such measures as the public safety requires to carry out the provisions of this act."

"It would appear from the above quotations of the law that the Mayor, the Building Commissioner and the building inspector of that district had ample authority to take any action deemed necessary to protect the public against this catastrophe.

"The occupancy of the building was not such as to require inspection by the Boston building inspector under the law, but the fact that there was a fire in this building on April 13 did require an inspection, and the fact that an application was made for a permit to repair, did require an inspection. Also, the fact that a building was being constructed adjoining, for which a permit had been given, required an inspection clearly before the inspector for that district and the Building Commissioner of the city of Boston. It is not to be ex-

pected that the building should have been closed."

PHALANX CLUB TO REMAIN CLOSED

**Officers Agree to Await
Mahoney's Permission**

Capt Richard F. Fitzgerald of the Dudley Street Station had a conference yesterday afternoon in his office with Pres Lincoln G. Pope of the Phalanx Orchestra Club, better known as "the Black and White Club," relative to the closing of this night club. Several directors of the club were present.

Capt Fitzgerald informed them that Building Commissioner John H. Mahoney had condemned that part of the building at 2156 Washington st, Roxbury, which is occupied by the club as unsafe.

Pres Pope, speaking for the directors, agreed to keep the club closed until the building commissioner rules the second floor is safe.

Capt Fitzgerald will assign a sergeant and several officers nightly to the club in order to see that the agreement is lived up to.

The officers will take up their post at 12:30 a.m., the hour that the Phalanx Club generally begins operations. Capt Fitzgerald thinks it unlikely, however, that any attempts will be made to open the club.

Often Raided

The Phalanx Club has gained considerable notoriety on account of raids and through various battles that have been waged within its portals. The club generally kept open until 4 o'clock and the noise of the dancing, the singing and the shouting caused many residents of that section to complain to the police. Sgt William D. Walsh, in charge of the liquor squad at Station 9, raided the club several times, and Capt Fitzgerald, himself, raided the club on the last occasion with 32 men.

The club and its officers have been defendants in court on at least six occasions on charges of keeping and exposing liquor for sale, maintaining a nuisance, selling liquor and disturbing the peace. The club was convicted in the Roxbury Court on two occasions on liquor charges, but was acquitted in the Superior Court both times. The last trial, which was about two months ago, lasted more than a week. Capt Fitzgerald prosecuted the case.

Similar to Pickwick Club

The club was run similar to the Pickwick Club. Admission was by membership card only and one seeking entrance had to be recognized at the door. Proprietors have always stoutly maintained that they never sold liquor and claimed that their patrons always brought their own liquor.

In the club whites and colored persons mingled freely and danced and drank together, the police say. The police have had continual trouble at the club in stopping fights that began in the club and continued outside. Many of the victims of the Pickwick Club tragedy have been guests of the Phalanx Club.

About a year ago, when the police were vainly striving to close the club, Judge Elmer Briggs, who had just previously freed the club on liquor charges, suggested to the police that they take the names of all guests as they came in at the door, and that this method might prove effective in keeping the better class of people away for fear of having pair, did require an inspection. Also, the fact that a building was being constructed adjoining, for which a permit had been given, required an inspection against each defendant, but the

In the Superior Court there were six defendants and four or five counts against each defendant, but the These things brought the whole matter to a conclusion. The Phalanx Club and the orchestra

POST - JULY 7-1921



THE DOORWAY OF DEATH—No. 6 BEACH STREET
Fire Commissioner Glynn is shown looking over the entrance to the ill-fated club after the wreckage had been cleared away. This is the doorway through which 43 persons passed, never to come out again alive.

The two unidentified bodies recovered from the ruins of the Pickwick Club were identified today by acquaintances as Thomas McManus of 206 Broadway, South Boston, employee of a private school near Salem, and "Happy" Whalen, a roomer at 20 Common street.

TRAVELER

As a result of expert testimony from engineers who had viewed the mass of twisted wreckage which was once the Pickwick Club, the Suffolk grand jury again today visited the scene of disaster to see for themselves what the engineers explained in technical language.

Following lunch at the Hotel Bellevue the jurors were led to Beach street and under the guidance of the engineers with

Dist.-Atty. O'Brien had

discussed the construction viewed the foundations.

WARNED BLOOMSBURG

Hugh Urquart, civil engineer, told Dist.-Atty. O'Brien that he had viewed the Pickwick Club the day of the disaster and had informed Hyman Bloomburg that precautions should be taken to avert an accident.

Search for Michael Ward, former secretary to the mayor and one of the proprietors of the Greenwich Village Club, which was situated on the lower floor of the Pickwick Club building, continued today without success. He is said to have gone on a vacation to New York, but the police so far have been unable to find any traces of him.

In response to Mayor Curley's request of President Stratton of Technology Prof. Edward F. Miller, chief of the institute's engineering division, today joined in the investigation of the causes of the fatal collapse of the building on Beach street occupied by the Pickwick Club. Prof. Miller, meeting the mayor and Building Commissioner Mahoney in the mayor's office this afternoon, went to the scene of the disaster, to begin a study of the site.

It is the mayor's hope that Prof. Miller, aided, perhaps, by his associates, will be able to reach an independent conclusion as to the causes of the collapse, which will aid city officials in drawing up additional building regulations to prevent a recurrence of the catastrophe.

The grand jury is expected to return its report tomorrow and a speedy trial is scheduled if it returns indictments. Chief Justice Hall of the superior court has directed Judge Lummus to convene a criminal session tomorrow.

Agents from Dist.-Atty. O'Brien's office today took the door of the Pickwick Club before the grand jury. From the stories of several witnesses the door to the club had a trick lock which prevented its being opened unless the system was known. The door was carried off with the rest of the debris after the disaster, but today was found and taken to Pemberton square for investigation.

The evidence of Hugh Urquhart at the district attorney's office is said to have changed considerably the complexion of the government's case. It is understood that his information is in a large way substantiated by the information already obtained by the consulting engineers, engaged by O'Brien to make a careful study of the ruins of the building.

Urquhart was on the Pickwick Club premises last Friday. He had previously installed an elevator in that building. He says that when he was at 6 Beach street, the day before the collapse, he was preparing some plans and that he had occasion to look at the underpinning of the building. He declares that he found seven four-foot piers with six-foot spaces between them. The clay had been removed, leaving the piers standing alone. He says that the spaces were clear to the base of the piers with nothing to support them from tilting in any direction if the upper structure should sway.

The district attorney was informed that the lateral support was removed by digging on the adjoining property. Here, a steam shovel and a number of pick and shovel men had been at work.

The A. G. Tomassello contracting company's men were using the steam shovel, but according to Joseph A. Tomassello at no time was his shovel nearer than 20 feet to the building line, it being impossible to operate a shovel close to the building line because of the upward curve it makes in operating.

It is the contention of the Tomassello company that it engaged four men to operate the shovel and that the removal of the ground at or near the building line was all done by hand and not by Tomassello's men, the Tomassello company attending only to the steam shovel work.

TRANSCRIPT - JULY 8-1921

CITY ACQUIRES MORE BIRDS

One of the finest collections of miscellaneous birds in this part of the country, comprising 195 varieties, has been acquired by the City of Boston from William R. Sampson, general manager of the United Shoe Machinery Company, who lives at 46 The Fenway. For many years Mr. Sampson took pains to make his collection as complete as possible of native stock. He asked \$4000 for the collection, but the mayor finally secured it for \$850. It will be installed in the aviary, Franklin Park.

TELEGRAM - 104Y-7-1925.

Turns to City Hall Scandal

Curley and Mahar Likely to Be Called
to Tell of School Contracts

JUL 7 1925 and Fees

Schoolhouse Commr. James J. Mahar has not returned to work at City Hall.

Mayor Curley declares: "I don't know of any reason why Mr. Mahar isn't back to work."

Nearly a week has passed since Mahar cleared out his desk, bade good-bye to associates and told them he was through, "fired" by Curley.

It was charged that his dismissal was the climax of a row in the mayor's office, during which Mahar flatly refused to O. K. schoolhouse contracts.

Coupled with the break between the mayor and Mahar were stories that architects who received contracts and fat fees were required to split "fifty-fifty" with a certain individual.

Mahar vanished simultaneously with announcement by Curley that Mahar had not been dismissed, and that he knew of no reason why Mahar should resign.

At Mahar's South Boston home the word given to all inquirers is that Mahar "is out of town and cannot be reached."

The Finance Commission has turned its attention to the situation.

Today it was stated there is a strong likelihood the commission will act on the suggestion of The Telegram, call Curley and Mahar, put them under oath, and get at the truth of the so-called "schoolhouse scandal."

FOOTE PUTS ALL BLAME UPON CITY

POST

JUL 7 1925
**Mayor, Building Commissioner and
Inspector Responsible, Says Pub-
lic Safety Chief**

B1
 In a report to Governor Fuller yesterday, made under the direction of the Governor, State Commissioner of Public Safety Alfred F. Foote, put the responsibility for the catastrophe at the Pickwick Club squarely up to Mayor Curley, Building Commissioner Mahoney and the buildings inspector for the city of Boston assigned to the district in which the club was located.

AMPLE AUTHORITY

After setting forth the results of his own investigation of the disaster and citing sections of the special building inspection law applicable to Boston only, Commissioner Foote reported to Governor Fuller:

"It would appear from the above quotations of the law that the Mayor, the Building Commissioner and the Building Inspector of that district had ample authority to take any action deemed necessary to protect the public against this catastrophe.

"The occupancy of the building was not such as to require inspection by a Boston building inspector under the law, but the fact that there was a fire in this building on April 13 did require an inspection, and the fact that an application was made for a permit to repair did require an inspection. Also, the fact that a building was being constructed adjoining, for which a permit had been given, required inspection, particularly as the excavating was below the foundation of the collapsed building and immediately adjoining it.

"These things brought the whole matter clearly before the inspector for that district and the building commissioner of the city of Boston. It is not to be expected that the building commissioner of Boston could personally view all these matters, but the inspector himself should have done so.

Should Have Seen Weakness

"Inasmuch as the building commissioner of Boston presumably by his authorized inspector for that district, had made his inspection of the building with a view to granting a permit to repair the damage done by the fire, it would seem to me that this very fact warranted the most thorough inspection. Had such an inspection been given, I fail to see why the structural weaknesses which, alas, seem to have existed, were not ascertained and in which case the law should have been invoked to order the premises vacated, the wall shored up (a simple but effective protection), and the street

excavation stopped until necessary steps

were taken to correct any decision as to what type of structural weakness caused this collapse—whether the timbers had been weakened because of the fire—whether the foundation slipped or gave way—whether the wall was not properly shored up toward the direction of the excavation, or whether the building was in a generally unsafe condition from a contribution of all these above causes.

The law applicable in this case is a special law made for the city of Boston. In this connection it is desired to state that Boston is excepted from the building laws of the whole State; and in their stead there was made and passed a law governing all these matters so far as Boston is concerned, placing the responsibility upon the building commissioner of Boston and the Mayor of Boston.

"The basic law was Chapter 550, 1907, and since that time there have been many amendments. All matters pertaining to the erection, repair, alteration and inspection of buildings come under the building commissioner for the city of Boston.

"Some part of the duties of the building commissioner of Boston and the Mayor of Boston are contained in Chapter 143, General Laws, these being the matters that pertain more especially to places of public assembly and the like. The Provisions of Chapter 143 are, however, not applicable to this situation.

"The following quotations of law are from the building law of the city of Boston:

"Par. 1, sec. 3. 'The commissioner (Boston building commissioner) or one of his inspectors shall examine any buildings reported as dangerous or damaged, and shall make a record of such examination, stating the nature and estimated amount of this damage and the purpose for which the building is used, and in case of fire the probable origin thereof; and shall examine all buildings in respect to which examinations have been made for permission to make, alter or repair, and shall make a record of every such examination.'

"Par. 2, sec. 4. 'The commissioner (Boston building commissioner) may, with the written approval of the Mayor, order any building which, in his opinion is unsafe, and not provided with sufficient means of egress in case of fire, or exits, in violation of any provision of this act, to be vacated forthwith.'

"Par. 1, sec. 5. 'If the public safety so requires, the commissioner, with the approval of the Mayor, may at once enter the building or other structure which he finds unsafe or dangerous, the land on which it stands, or the abutting land or buildings with such assistance as he may require, and secure or remove the same and may erect such protection for the public by proper fence or otherwise, as may be necessary, and for this purpose may close up a highway.'

"Par. 2, sec. 12. 'Every structure in process of construction, alteration, repair or removal, and every neighboring construction or portion thereof affected by such process or by any excavation shall be sufficiently supported during such process.'

"Par. 3, sec. 12. 'The commission may take such measures as the public safety requires to carry out the provisions of this act.'

RECORD FOR FAST FIRST AID SERVICE

Walter Shubert, 30, of 54 Lynn street, Everett, yesterday received what was probably the quickest first-aid service in the history of the City Hospital department. Shubert was passing the ruins of the Pickwick Club, staring up at the still hanging walls, when he failed to see a curbing that was wet and slippery. His feet went from under him and he fell, shattering some bones in his wrist and otherwise injuring his arm. He half-rolled under a City Hospital ambulance.

Malcolm Blue, the male nurse on the ambulance, picked Shubert up, carried him into the ambulance and in less than five minutes he was in the City Hospital, where his arm was dressed.

What would have made the catastrophe at least less terrible in loss of life, if not quite impossible of occurrence."

The commissioner's report to the Governor as to the laws governing building inspection in Boston and the result of his own investigation of the situation is as follows:

"Early on the morning of July 4, the building at 6-12 Beach street, occupied by a club known as the Pickwick Club, collapsed. Up to this time it is said that 42 persons lost their lives. The ruins and debris are not yet completely cleared away and there may be still some bodies in the wreckage.

"This was a five-story, second-class building, approximately 45 feet front and 65 feet deep. On April 13 there was a fire in the building. The estimated damage to the building was \$3000. Soon after, application was made to the building commissioner of Boston for a permit to repair and reconstruct this building.

"This was issued by the Boston build-

ing department and the repairs were begun. The property on the easterly side, adjoining the property in question, is a vacant lot, owned by Jordan Marsh Co. Application was made to the building commissioner of Boston for a permit to build on this property and permit was issued by the building department of Boston for this purpose. Excavations were being made on this adjoining property at the time of the catastrophe.

TELEGRAM - JULY 8-1925

PICKWICK CLUB EVIDENCE GOES IN WILD TORRENT

8-1925

TELEGRAM

Curley Office Men Face New Grill as Death Probe Rushes to End

G1

Valuable evidence was destroyed today when workmen, engaged in clearing away the debris of the ill-fated Pickwick club, in search of more bodies, swung a heavy block of granite against a water main, bursting it and flooding the "death pit."

The basement of the Thompson Restaurant, next door, was also flooded.

The men were attacking the remaining debris, with the aid of a derrick, when the water main was shattered. All jumped for their lives as tons of water were released.

The Suffolk county grand jury, now probing the cause of the disaster, was to have viewed this section of the wreckage today. To what extent evidence was wiped out by the flood cannot be determined.

Officials in charge of cleaning up the ruins confessed today to the belief more bodies would be found when the one remaining corner of the wreckage still unsearched, would be laid bare. It is expected this corner would be cleaned out before noon.

G2

The grand jury resumed the questioning of witnesses today.

John Glynn, brother of Fire Commr. Theodore A. Glynn and Nat Clark, former member of the mayor's staff of secretaries, were among witnesses called before the jury adjourned. They were former proprietors of the Greenwich Village club, which occupied quarters in the Pickwick Club building before the club went out of existence.

Several Boston civil engineers were called before the jury today to testify as to the condition of the

wrecked building before and after the tragedy.

Indications that a speedy trial will be given persons indicted in the Pickwick case was given today when it was learned Chief Justice Walter Perley Hall had instructed Judge Lummus to convene a criminal session in Boston tomorrow. It is understood this session will be held in readiness to act on indictments, if any are returned.

Hugh Urquhart, elevator installer, told the district attorney that on Friday, less than 24 hours before the tragedy, he wired J. Bloomberg, lessee of the building that the premises were in dangerous condition being supported only by seven blocks.

He said he found seven four-foot piers with six-foot spaces between them. The clay, he said, had been removed, leaving the piers standing alone. He said there was nothing to prevent the piers from tilting in any direction if the structure above

Salvage Work

Wreckage From Pickwick Club Building Now Is Distributed Over Two Big Dumps POST

The building that housed the Pickwick Club at 6 Beach street is now distributed over two city dumps and at the city yards, a jumbled mass of old brick and twisted timbers.

The truckmen who hauled away the debris took most of the old material to Coleman Brothers' dump in South Boston and the parkway development in South Boston. A dozen or more loads of old timber and brick were taken to the city yards.

According to the city records, the building was owned by the estate of Albert R. Rosenthal. The land upon which the building stood has an assessed valuation of \$61,400.

Hyman Bloomberg of the Hayward Realty Trust was the lessee and the second floor of the building that housed the Pickwick Club was sublet to the Commercial Men's Club, Inc.

If the owners of the property want to recover the value of the collapsed building or of the material carted away after the collapse by the city workers or any part of the value, their claim must first be passed upon by the Boston city law department. The matter would then be referred to the Council and a bill awarding damages would have to be drawn and passed upon by the Council and the Mayor awarding such sums to the owners.

GLOBE - JULY 8-1925

CITY PURCHASES BIRDS FOR ZOO

GLOBE

Fine Collection for Aviary

at Franklin Park

JULY 8 1925

Two hundred birds of many varieties, the collection of general manager William R. Sampson of the United Shoe Machinery Company's Boston office, and one of the finest in this part of the country, has been purchased by Mayor Curley for the Franklin Park Zoo aviary. The birds will be removed from the Sampson aviary, 46 The Fenway, to the Zoo this week.

"I offered to place a large brass plate in the zoo aviary with Mr Sampson's name upon it as donor of the birds to the people of Boston, but he wanted \$4000 for the birds. Eventually, however, Mr Sampson consented to selling them for \$850," His Honor declared.

Contracts were also closed with M. S. Kelher, lowest bidder at \$28,136, for alterations to the Teachers' College.

Pope Company, Inc., was awarded by the Mayor, on Law Department recommendation, the sum of \$48,726 in settlement for the taking of 223 sq ft of land at 49-57 Cambridge st in connection with the widening of that thoroughfare.

AMERICAN - JULY 8-1925

DIG FOR MORE BODIES IN PICKWICK RUINS

Medical Examiner Leary spiked the rumor last night that a woman's scalp had been found near the cement foundations of the Pickwick Club ruins on the Olympic Theatre side.

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"There may be other bodies yet in the ruins," he said, "but there is nothing to the rumor of finding a scalp. I have made a thorough personal canvass of the workers and determined no such discovery has been made."

The gang of 100 new laborers still excavating the ruins stopped work at 8 o'clock last night, but will resume work early today. Dist. Atty. O'Brien wishes to have a special investigation made of the cement foundations to determine if the mixture was up to the standard required by law.

The vestibule doorway of the wrecked building, the only portion that now stands, was also ordered left untouched by Dist. Atty. O'Brien. It was learned the doors which led to the building opened inward instead of outward as the law required.

Photographs of the vestibule and door were taken by a city photographer.

Engineers from Stone & Webster, summoned by the district attorney, made measurements of two of the centre foundation stones of the building. It was reported one of these stones had been split and filled in with sand and cement when the building was erected.

FULLER TO VISIT RUINS

The finding of relics of other days continued. The digging yesterday yielded a quart of Felton rum, with a label showing it had been made in South Boston.

Three pairs of rosary beads, a blood-soaked white felt hat, and a pair of slippers bearing the name of a high-priced Tremont st. firm, were also salvaged.

AT PICKWICK CLUB SITE TODAY

Will Hear More Witnesses Later

JUL 8 1925. In Afternoon

GLOBE

The Suffolk County Grand Jury investigating the Pickwick Club disaster visited this afternoon the scene of the building collapse for a view of the

"What Was Wrong?"



Building Commissioner Mahoney and Mayor Curley are shown above at the Pickwick Club ruins seeking to determine the cause of the disaster.

C40BET JULY 8-1925

foundation Dist. Atty. O'Brien accompanied the Grand Jury on the trip. At 1 p m they lunched at the Hotel Bellevue. Following their lunch they were taken to Beach st., where workmen had taken away the debris so that they could get a clear view of the foundation.

The trip was taken in order that the members of the Grand Jury might have an opportunity to see exactly how the foundation on the outer wall looks.

There was no witness before the Grand Jury this morning on the Pickwick Club matter. Other cases were placed before the jurors. It is understood they will resume the hearing on the Pickwick Club this afternoon. The proceedings this morning were held up, as Dist. Atty. O'Brien is awaiting the complete report of investigating engineers who have been ordered to examine the foundation.

Asst. Atty. Gen. Goldberg, assigned by Atty. Gen. Benton to assist Mr. O'Brien, was at the district attorney's office this morning and talked to witnesses with Mr. O'Brien.

Asst. Dist. Atty. George Alpert also questioned witnesses preparatory to their testifying this afternoon, it is believed.

Architect Gow Excused Until 2

Charles R. Gow, architect, and other persons to appear before the Grand Jury in connection with the Pickwick Club, were on hand this morning, but were excused until 2 p m. On the chance that they might be called, all those excused were first required to tell the telephone number where they could be reached.

Inspector James A. Dennessy of the homicide squad of the Boston police, who has charge of witnesses, was prepared to get in instant touch with any of them, but it was not required.

Michael Ward of Mayor Curley's office force appeared at the district attorney's office this afternoon. It is understood he is one of those connected with the Greenwich Village Cafe, which, for a time preceding a fire, occupied the first floor of the premises on Beach st. When the Greenwich Village Cafe opened, the Pickwick Club moved to quarters on the floor above and remained there till the time the building collapsed.

It appears doubtful if the Grand Jury will complete its investigation today.

Prof Miller and Mayor Curley

Prof. E. R. Miller of M. I. T. visited the Beach-st. ruins with Mayor Curley this afternoon, to make observations of conditions as they are now, following the Pickwick Club disaster. He particularly examined the shorings or footings, concrete supports which were supposed to be sufficiently strong to support the building which collapsed.

Mr. Curley told reporters that Building Department inspectors are held responsible for examination of these shorings when they are installed.

Shortly before the Grand Jurors went to the scene of the Pickwick Club disaster they were shown a door which was said to be the door of the Pickwick Club. The door had no lock upon it. The door had been either ripped or pulled from its place.

C40BE - JU44 - 8-1925

MORE DAMAGE RESULT OF PICKWICK CLUB FALL

Water Main Cracks Under Weight of Debris,
Flooding Adjoining Cellar

1925 - 8 [ILL]

The havoc which was wreaked on neighboring buildings by the collapse of the Pickwick Club had a sequel at 4 this morning, when a water main in front of the building cracked under the strain to which it has been subjected, and flooded the cellar of the building at 672 Washington st, the ground floor of which is occupied by Thompson's restaurant.

This structure shared its boilers with the Pickwick Club. They were in the latter, and when the crash came, were completely covered by bricks. This cut off the water supply in the restaurant and necessitated its shutting down, although food and coffee were served during the night to the firemen and other workers on the ruins.

This morning, shortly before dawn, the pipes finally gave way to the strain, and the main cracked badly. The cellar is now under about a foot of water. Many food supplies have been destroyed by the flood, and work is being rushed during the night to the firemen and

In the meantime, the contractors in the excavation are laboriously digging through the debris to uncover the pipes so that they can be repaired. Some of them are very badly bent by the weight of what has fallen on them, and it seems likely that they will have to be replaced entirely.

Building Commissioner John H. Mahoney arrived at the scene of the disaster at 9 and watched the progress of the work. He went into the excavation and tested the soil there with his hands.

CLOSED NEIGHBORS REOPEN, STREET PASSAGE ALLOWED

There is very little more work to be done before the debris at the scene of the Pickwick Club ruins will be wholly cleared away. All morning the workmen were busy shoring up the rear wall of the building at the corner of Beach and Washington sts.

The Grand Garden, an American-Chinese restaurant on the second floor of the corner building, was allowed to open for business this noon and Gordon's Olympia is holding regular shows.

At 9:45 this morning traffic was permitted to go through Beach st for the first time since Saturday morning. Traffic can move in only one direction, from Harrison av toward Washington

SECRETARY COOK KNOWS OF NO FORGED CLUB CHARTER

Secretary of State Frederic W. Cook said today that he had no knowledge of a forged charter of the Broadway Sporting Club having been submitted to him or any other official in connection with the petition of the club in question for authority to change its name to the Lambs' Club.

There is before him, he said, the petition already referred to and he has not acted upon it. Furthermore, the petitioners have not carried out all the requirements made by the statutes, which provide that the petition must be publicly advertised and a copy of the advertisement must be sent to the Secretary of State.

Continued next page

TRANSCRIPT - JU44-8-1925 CITY OPPOSED BILL FOR STRICT CONTROL OF ALL-NIGHT CLUBS

Record of Hearing in February
Shows Objections of Mayor's
Representative

PAKULSKI'S ARGUMENT
TRANSCRIPT.
Classed Measure with Volstead Act,
and Said It Wouldn't
Help

JUL 8 1925

The attempt of the city officials of Boston to establish an alibi for themselves and to blame the Legislature for the existence of midnight clubs of the type of the Pickwick, Black and White and Lambs' clubs, has acted as a boomerang in the light of such places was pending before the Legislature at its latest session.

The bill was adversely reported by the Committee on Social Welfare, and killed, but not until after H. Murray Pakulski, assistant corporation counsel, representing Mayor Curley, had stated that there was law enough on the statute books to control such places and to regulate dance halls of all descriptions. He stated emphatically that "no man in the State is more interested in the morality of the people than the mayor of Boston, and if the legislation would be helpful he would be the first to appear and support it. The legislation, however, would not be a help."

These facts might not have been recalled had it not been for a statement by John H. Mahony, building commissioner, and John M. Casey, chief of the licensing division, issued by Mayor Curley, in which appeared the following paragraph:

"The recommendations of the mayor to the Legislature of Massachusetts, for the past three years, and the endeavors of his predecessor, indicate that the mayors of Boston have sought jurisdiction over resorts of the type of the 'Pickwick Club,' in order that adequate supervision might apply as in other places licensed by the mayor. In every attempt to gain this authority, the Legislature has reported leave to withdraw."

The Transcript on Thursday evening, Feb. 19, printed the following account of the hearing on the bill in question, which was held on that day:

Dancing and Drinking

One of the most sensational attacks on midnight clubs and roadhouses in Massachusetts ever heard in public was launched today before the legislative Committee on Social Welfare by Rev. A. Z. Conrad, D. D., pastor of the Park Street Church; J. Frank Chase of the Watch and Ward Society and other speakers during a hearing on a bill which would place such resorts under the control of the public authorities by providing for their licensing.

"It is difficult to describe the conditions in these places," declared Mr. Chase, "because what goes on there is almost unbearable. In the midnight clubs the principal activity carried on is the indulgence in hooch-hoochle dancing and the drinking of liquor. In the dances the participant is so attired as to be unrecognizable. She is

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tempting him. She is allowed to 'park' her intimate personal apparel before going on the dance floor.

"These midnight clubs open at midnight and close at six o'clock in the morning. They do a large business in the sale of liquor. If this liquor is not taken to the club on the 'hip' of the person who indulges, he can get it on the premises from a waiting bootlegger. It is Scotch which comes from Chelsea that is being served and brings in \$12 a quart. These clubs and roadhouses are run by men who before prohibition were the owners of cafés. They are in the business for money and are making it plentifully. Scores of these places are springing up. They are a menace to the communities of our Commonwealth and I believe it is time for the lawmakers to do something to check the evil."

No Time for Feather Duster

Dr. Conrad was equally emphatic in his testimony. He declared that these places are responsible "for young girls being led astray by the hundreds because of the facilities for destruction that are being offered them. It is impossible to choose words describing the conditions that are actually existing. The situation is unspeakable. The resorts are run by shameless men who fatten on the ruined characters and the destroyed bodies and souls of our young people.

"It is a nefarious, infamous, hell-filling business and should be stopped, not with a feather duster, but with a decidedly big club. That is the only way of meeting such a situation."

Clarence R. Preston of the Florence Crittenton League said that girls who have been cared for by the league he represents, have attributed their misfortune to attendance at parties in these dance halls and roadhouses. He urged that immediate action be taken to meet the situation. Rev. Francis White of Somerville also supported the measure.

City of Boston in Opposition

For Mayor Curley, who is out of the State, H. Murray Pakulski, assistant corporation counsel, opposed the measure, declaring:

"No man in the State is more interested in the morality of the people than the mayor of Boston, and if the legislation would be helpful he would be the first to appear and support it. The legislation, however, would not be a help. There are some people who believe that prohibition has not decreased drunkenness, or raised the morals of the people. The bill presented here, I believe, to be in the same class with the Volstead act." He contended there is now enough on the statute books now to control such places and to regulate dance halls of all descriptions.

Representative Francis X. Coyne of Dorchester, in opposition, said that instead of presenting such a bill as the proposed measure, a law should be enacted to penalize parents who allow minor children to attend questionable dances in questionable dance halls.

Following is the form of the bill, which was numbered House 891:

An Act to provide for Licensing and Regulating Semi-Public Dances and Dance Halls.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1.—Any building wherein dancing is permitted, suffered or tolerated, and in which or connected with which by an interior communication, food or drink is sold to be consumed on the premises, or in which after free admission, money or any valuable consideration is received for remaining thereon for any purpose whatever, shall be deemed a semi-public dance hall, and dances therein semi-public dances.

Section 1.—Whoever manages, promotes or holds a semi-public dance without first having obtained a license so to do from

the proper authorities, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or six months in the House of Correction, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 3.—The license shall be expressed to be subject to the following conditions and to be subject to revocation upon the breach of any thereof:

First.—That the dance shall be conducted and that the persons in and about the dance hall shall be required to conduct themselves with propriety and decorum.

Second.—That there shall be no drinking of intoxicating liquor on the premises nor any person admitted or suffered to remain thereon who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor, or who has intoxicating liquor in his possession.

Third.—That no muscle dancing or Apache dancing shall be tolerated on the premises.

Severe Penalties Provided

Section 4.—The Licensing Board of the city of Boston, or the officer or board at the head of the police in cities and the board of selectmen in towns may grant a license to conduct semi-public dance halls to such person or persons as are of good character and repute, under such terms and conditions as they deem reasonable, and they may revoke the same at their pleasure.

Section 5.—Whoever in a public or semi-public dance hall shall engage in a muscle dance, an Apache dance or any other independent dance shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or three months in the House of Correction.

Section 6.—Whoever shall enter a public or semi-public dance while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or remain thereon having the same in his possession shall be punished by a fine of not less or not more than \$100 or three months in the House of Correction.

E3

Engineer Says He Warned of Condition of the Foundation

Hugh S. Urquhart States That Thirty-Seven Feet Were Carried on Seven New Concrete Pillars Without Earth Support

Information bearing upon the condition of the Pickwick Club Building shortly before it fell was given to District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien yesterday afternoon by Hugh Stanley Urquhart, an engineer, who visited the building on Friday and examined the underpinning. Mr. Urquhart had previously installed an elevator in the building.

He told the district attorney that at three o'clock Friday afternoon, just about twelve hours before the building fell, he observed the foundations where they had been uncovered by the excavation in the adjoining lot. Beneath the foundations there had been recently constructed seven concrete piers four feet wide. The clayey earth had been dug away between these pillars and a little distance away the excavation was about eighteen inches below the lowest foundation of the Pickwick Club Building. Thirty-seven feet of the foundation was carried on these pillars. Mr. Urquhart further said that he was so impressed by what he saw that he spoke to Hyman Bloomfield, the lessee of the premises.

Upon receiving this information the district attorney immediately sent his engineering experts to make a further examination of the wrecked building.

Joseph A. Tomasello of the contracting firm of A. G. Tomasello, which is doing the steam shovel work in the adjoining excavation, stated that his steam shovel was not within twenty feet of the building line because it could not work closer. The other excavating near the wall of the wrecked building was done by hand by another contractor.

Mayor Calls for Experts in Pickwick Club Disaster

Asks President Stratton of Technology to

For an investigation to be conducted by District Attorney O'Brien as to the cause of the Pickwick Club disaster, Mayor Curley has asked President Samuel W. Stratton of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to designate three professors or experts to act for the city. In his request the mayor says:

"My Dear Mr. President: The city of Boston is desirous of enlisting the services of your splendid institution for the purpose of determining the probable cause of the collapse of the building occupied by the Pickwick Club at Beach street, Boston. It occurred to me that it might be possible for you to designate three professors or experts in construction and architecture to make this study and to submit their report; the report as compiled by your experts to serve as the basis for the adoption of such rules, regulations and laws as might be deemed necessary for the protection of the public against similar recurrences of the frightful catastrophe that occurred upon the premises at Beach street, Boston."

"The city of Boston is prepared to pay such compensation as may be deemed reasonable and proper for these services, which I sincerely trust it will be possible for the institution of which you are head to furnish."

Funerals for Other Victims of Pickwick Club Disaster

Draped Taxicab of Carl Paulson, Jr., with His Cap on Radiator, Is Driven in Procession at Roxbury—Two Sisters Buried from St. Patrick's

Funeral services were held today for several more of the victims of the Pickwick Club disaster. In one instance a double funeral was held for Mrs. Mary C. McEachern and Mrs. Lillian L. McIsaac.

Employers Deny Higher Rates Are Paid Outside City

GLOBE
Answer Claim of Union Men in Wage Dispute

Even a general sympathetic strike of 15,000 skilled workers in the building trades will not persuade the Building Trades Employers' Association to recede from its refusal to give laborers an increase this year from the prevailing 65-70 cent per hour rate to the demanded 77½-80 cent rate. See John F. Walsh of the association indicated to the Federal Department of Labor conciliators, who began their hearing of both sides in the dispute in the City Council Chamber yesterday.

"There will be no agreement entered into by the association, either verbal or signed, during the present year, that carries any increase in wages to the laborers," it was stated in a brief handed the conciliators by Pres. William A. Root of the association.

All the laborers are now back at work on the old scale, pending the findings of the conciliators—chairman W. G. Wood, W. C. Liller and R. A. Brown. The hearing was adjourned to Friday, at 10 a.m., when more data will be submitted by both sides.

Secretary E. A. Johnson of the Building Trades Council had claimed, in the forenoon session, that rates for laborers in communities outside Boston were as high as those now demanded for laborers in Boston. But Free Root denied this, for the Employers' Association, in his appearance in the hearing, urged that the rates to laborers

SAYS CLUB PIERS LACKED SUPPORT

Elevator Man Investigated on Day Before Disaster

E8075

JUL 8 1925

Grand Jury Expected to Hear Last Witnesses in Probe Today

The Suffolk County Grand Jury, investigating the collapse of the Pickwick Club at 6 Beach st Saturday morning, which caused the death of 43 persons, adjourned at 9 o'clock last night after having been in session almost 12 hours.

The Grand Jury will convene again at 9:30 this morning, but further deliberation of the Pickwick Club case is not expected before noon, or possibly 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Today the jurors will have before them a report of the expert engineers appointed by Dist Atty Thomas C. O'Brien to conduct an examination of the ruins. It was explained last night by the district attorney that the weather conditions will have considerable to do with the time that this report is received. He stated that if the rain which was falling at the time continued it would have the effect of delaying the report of the engineers.

At the same time the district attorney stated he expected to have on hand an analysis of the cement taken from the underpinning of the building. This sample of cement was sent to the Watertown Arsenal for analysis.

Report Very Important

Dist Atty O'Brien pointed out that the report of the engineers was very important as it is expected to show the condition of the building above, and the condition of the building

below. In other words, it was explained, the engineers' report may show whether the building collapsed from the movement of the dancers or

physical defects in the under part of the structure.

Unless the report of the engineers makes it necessary the Grand Jury will not, it is believed, call any other witnesses today. The almost continuous 12-hour session of yesterday, during which nearly a score of witnesses were heard, took care of most of those whose testimony would be of some value in ascertaining the responsibility for the disaster.

Unless there is some unexpected delay it is believed the Grand Jury will take the facts in the case under consideration late this afternoon. If a decision is reached and an indictment returned Judge Henry T. Lummus will be available in a session of the Superior Criminal Court to receive the report of the Grand Jury. It was announced yesterday that Chief Justice Walter P. Hall had issued an order directing Judge Lummus to convene specially a criminal session in Boston tomorrow.

"Tim" Barry Comes Out Crying

The feature of yesterday's proceedings was the appearance before the jurors of Timothy Barry, president and treasurer of the Pickwick Club. He went into the Grand Jury room about 3 o'clock and about an hour later was led out crying and almost in a state of collapse. He was excused until 5:30 and shortly before 6 o'clock was again in the jury room, staying there until the session was adjourned for supper.

After supper he was the first witness called and after being in the room about a half hour again collapsed and was brought out to revive. He was not recalled again.

Other witnesses at the evening session of the Grand Jury were Nat Clark, formerly an assistant city censor, and John Glynn of Roxbury, a provision dealer and a brother of Fire Commissioner Glynn. These two with Michael Ward, formerly one of Mayor Curley's secretaries, were the original proprietors of the Greenwich Village Cafe which was located on the first floor of the Beach-st building until the fire in April. It has not reopened since.

Clark was brought to the courthouse from his home at Nantasket by court officer Arthur Crowley who had been dispatched there to notify him he was wanted as a witness. Glynn found the summons to appear when he arrived at his home in Homestead st, Roxbury, late in the day.

Sold Out in April

Before entering the Grand Jury room both Clark and Glynn stated they had not been associated with the Greenwich Village Cafe since the first part of April. They said that before the fire in the building they had sold their interests to Roslyn Clark, a brother of Nat, and Henry Larkin. Asked if they had ever noticed any serious vibration

in the building while dancing was being held in the Pickwick Club both stated they had not and pointed out that their cafe closed shortly after midnight, before the hour activities started in the Pickwick Club.

They said that the arrangement by which food was secured from the kitchen of the Greenwich Village Cafe for patrons of the Pickwick Club was a personal one, made by the management of the Pickwick Club with the chef of the cafe, and had no connection with them.

Clark and Glynn were in the Grand Jury room but a short time ago were followed by the final witness of the day, George Callahan, an employee of the club. He was inside but a few minutes and adjournment for the day was announced.

Attorney General Helps

On the suggestion of Gov Alvin T. Fuller, Atty Gen Jay R. Benton yesterday conferred with Dist Atty O'Brien. The Attorney General offered the assistance of his office, with the result that two of his assistants, Lewis Goldberg and Melville Fuller Weston, were sent to Mr O'Brien's office to assist in the probe.

Mr O'Brien and Mr Goldberg were quartered in a room adjoining that of the Grand Jury. All witnesses appeared before them first and told their stories. If Mr O'Brien or Mr Goldberg deemed the stories of value as evidence before the Grand Jury, the witnesses were then turned over to Asst Dist Atty Maurice Card and George Alpert, who did the questioning before the jurors.

Other witnesses who appeared before the Grand Jury yesterday were: Michael Hirshberg a waiter at the Pickwick Club; Louis Epple, secretary of the Boston Licensing Board; Mildred McGilvary of 38 Shawmut av, Revere, who was rescued; Hyman Bloomberg; Charles Bliss, an employee of a real estate agency; John M. Casey of the City Censorship Board; Lawrence Perkins, foreman for a contractor; Nathan Fritz, a contractor; Charles R. Leahy, foundation foreman for Gow & Co; John M. Tobin, superintendent for contractor; Pasquale Angelo, a steam shovel man; John M. Anderson, a building inspector; David Blaskey, building inspector.

*Continued
next page*

JULY 8-1925

Found P'e & Un-supported

The absence of Hugh Urquhart at the district attorney's office is said to have considerably changed the complexion of the Government's case. It is understood that his information is in a large way substantiated by the information already obtained by the consulting engineers engaged by Mr O'Brien to make a careful study of the ruins of the building.

Urquhart was at the Pickwick Club building premises last Friday. He had previously installed an elevator in that building. He says that when he was at 6 Beach street, the day before the collapse, he was preparing some plans and that he had occasion to look at the underpinning of the building. He says he found seven four-foot piers with a six-foot space between each one. The clay had been removed, leaving the piers standing alone with nothing between them. He says the spaces were clear to the base of the piers, with nothing to prevent them from tilting in any direction if the upper structure should sway.

The district attorney was informed that the lateral support was removed by digging in the adjoining property. Here a steam shovel and a number of pick-and-shovel men were at work.

Work of Excavation

The A. G. Tomassello Contracting Company's men were using the steam shovel, but, according to Joseph A. Tomassello, at no time was his shovel nearer than 20 feet to the building line, it being impossible to operate a shovel close to the building line, because of the upward curve it makes in operating.

Tomassello, through his lawyer, Samuel L. Ballen, notified the district attorney that the Tomassello Company and Pultz, Inc., contractors, entered into an agreement on March 24, last, and that work under this alleged contract was begun by Tomassello on April 14 and suspended on May 15, "in order to allow the Pultz Company, or their representatives, to complete the underpinning on the collapsed building."

Attorney Ballen directed the district

attorney's attention to what he claims to be in the contract an agreement that Pultz was "to do all sheathing and shoring necessary to protect the adjoining buildings and banks," and for that reason the work by the Tomassello Company was suspended and was not resumed until June 19.

It is the claim of the Tomassello Company that they engaged four men to operate the shovel and, they say, the removal of the ground at or near the building line was all done by hand and not by Tomassello's men, the Tomassello Company attending only to the steam-shovel work.

Says Barry Didn't Report

An agent of the Industrial Accident Board was at the district attorney's office looking for Barry to ascertain from him his reason for not notifying the board of the number of dead or injured in the building collapse. The law is that any person or corporation employing labor, whether covered by insurance or not, must within 48 hours after an accident, simple injury or death, notify the board. Barry, the agent contends, failed to do this. Criminal action can be instituted and a fine of \$50 imposed.

Barry declined to talk with the agent when the subject was broached and asked him to go with him to the office of his lawyer, Thomas N. Creed, where an arrangement was made by which an extension of time was permitted in filing the information.

**APPLICATION TO USE NAME
OF LAMBS' CLUB PENDING**

The Broadway Sporting Club's application to change its name to the Lambs' Club is still awaiting the approval of Secretary of State Frederic W. Cook. The application was made June 15, and Henry F. Long, Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation, has certified that it is in legal form. It is believed that Secretary Cook will not sanction the change of name, as club charters

are under careful consideration at the State House at present.

The Lambs' Club charter was revoked by Secretary Cook a few months ago at the request of the City Licensing Board. The officers of the Lambs' Club then took over the charter of the Charles River A. A., which had not been used for some time.

The signers of the application now awaiting approval are Joseph L. McCarthy, president; Thomas King, treasurer; John McGrath, secretary, and Fred J. McLaughlin, John McCarthy and Charles A. Dailey, directors.

**TECH IS ASKED TO NAME
BOARD OF INVESTIGATION**

Pres S. W. Stratton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology was invited by Mayor Curley last night to name a board of three of its faculty, specialists in architecture and construction, to investigate and determine the probable cause of the Beach-st building disaster. The city would compensate the men for their services, and, in any event, their findings would be the basis of a revision of the building laws designed to prevent a recurrence of a disaster of the particular nature of the one which happened Saturday morning.

"The city of Boston is desirous of enlisting the services of your splendid institution for the purpose of determining the probable cause of the collapse of the Pickwick Club building," the Mayor wrote Pres Stratton.

"It occurred to me that it might be possible for you to designate three professors or experts in architecture and construction to make this study and submit their report. This report could serve as the basis of such new rules, regulations and laws as might be deemed necessary for protection of the public against such a catastrophe.

"The city is prepared to pay such compensation as may be deemed reasonable and proper for these services."

POST - JULY 7-1925

**SEC'Y COOK
ANSWERED
BY WILSON**

**Insists Pickwick Club
Had Charter on**

Wall POST

JULY 7 1925

Police Commissioner Wilson, when informed by a Post reporter that Secretary of State Cook had again announced that the Pickwick Club had no license, made the following comment:

"In the club rooms was a charter issued to the Commercial Men's Club, Inc. On it was a green slip, signed by the Secretary of State, per K. A. Carty, setting forth that \$1 had been paid and the name of the club changed to the Pickwick Club.

SECURE ORIGINAL

"Sergeant Harvey procured the original this afternoon and it was presented to the officials handling the affair for the grand jury. To say that the police are responsible is not correct.

"The police are practically powerless in the matter of these clubs. The charter that Secretary Cook issued to the Commercial Club was a 'floating' one. It had no address on it, could be used anywhere. It is true that it was investigated by our police department. The Secretary of State does refer such applications for charter to my office. And Captain Skillings of the City Hall avenue station investigated the men named in it and reported back an O. K. to me.

"When the police department investigates men who apply for a club charter, we investigate three things. First as to whether they have ever been convicted for violation of the liquor law; second if they have ever been convicted for gambling and third if they have ever been convicted for running a questionable house or place. Captain Skillings reported back to me that the men named had no such records.

Many "Floating Charters"

"There are lots of these 'floating charters' in existence. It should be stopped, for under their charter they are private clubs, licensed as such by the Secretary of State, and no member of our police department or any other police department has any authority to go into their rooms unless he has a warrant or a membership card.

"We had a warrant and entered the Lamb's Club. We convicted them and that meant a revocation of their charter. What happened? That very day they called me on the phone and said, 'Well, we are opening up again tonight, commissioner, as the Charles River A. A. And if you close us up on that one, we have three or four other charters we can use.' How can you combat anything like that?

"The police department had nothing to do with allowing persons in that building or anything to say whether it was safe or not.

"The charter was issued by the Secretary of State and pasted or placed right on it was the slip signed by the Secretary of State, through his assistant, announcing that they had changed the name."

CHARGE "DASTARDLY"

**Secretary of State Says Attempt to
Make His Office Responsible Is
Ridiculous**

Secretary of State Cook yesterday characterized as "ridiculous" and "dastardly" any attempt to make his office responsible "for continued occupancy of an unsafe building, because it was supposed to be occupied by a chartered corporation."

In a lengthy statement of his official connection with the granting of charters to clubs to occupy the premises at 6-12 Beach street, Secretary Cook said that the Pickwick Club, Inc., is not a party of record as a chartered club in his office; that a charter to operate a club at that address was issued to the Commercial Men's Club, Inc., in February, 1924; that later the State department of corporations and taxations received an application for a change of the name of the Commercial Men's Club, Inc., but because of irregularities in its form the application was returned to the applicant for correction, and that no new change of name was ever filed with his office.

HERA 4D - JULY 8 - 1925

PICKWICK CLUB'S WALLS HAD BEEN UNDERMINED, ENGINEER TELLS O'BRIEN

JUL 8 1925

Made Inspection Only Day

Before, Hugh Urquhart Says

LATERAL SUPPORTS HAD BEEN REMOVED

Nothing to Keep Them
from Tilting if Structure
Happened to Sway

HERALD

The fact that Chief Justice Hall of the superior court yesterday issued an order directing Judge Lummus specially to convene a criminal session in Boston tomorrow, gives rise to the belief that there will be a speedy trial of the persons indicted, if any, in connection with the grand jury investigation of the collapse of the building that housed the Pickwick Club.

The grand jury adjourned for the night at 9 o'clock. It will reconvene today at 9:30 A. M., and will continue its inquiry.

ENGINEERS TO TESTIFY

Most of the witnesses yesterday testified to collateral matters. Today, the district attorney expects to have his engineers ready to give him the result of their investigation, and to tell him definitely whether the collapse came from above or whether the underpinning was the cause.

The engineers, at the instance of the district attorney, are having analyzed at the Watertown arsenal some of the new cement that had been put on piers.

The evidence of Hugh Urquhart at the district attorney's office is said to have changed considerably the complexion of the government's case. It is understood that his information is in a large way substantiated by the information already obtained by the consulting engineers, engaged by O'Brien to make a careful study of the ruins of the building.

WAS THERE LAST FRIDAY

Urquhart was on the Pickwick Club premises last Friday. He had previously installed an elevator in that building. He says that when he was at 6 Beach Street, the day before the collapse, he

had occasion to look at the underpinning of the building. He declares that he found seven four-foot piers with six-foot spaces between them. The clay had been removed, leaving the piers standing alone. He says that the spaces were clear to the base of the piers with nothing to support them from tilting in any direction if the upper structure should sway.

TOLD LATERAL SUPPORT REMOVED BY DIGGING

The district attorney was informed that the lateral support was removed by digging on the adjoining property. Here, a steam shovel and a number of pick and shovel men had been at work.

The A. G. Tomassello contracting company's men were using the steam shovel, but according to Joseph A. Tomassello at no time was his shovel nearer than 20 feet to the building line, it being impossible to operate a shovel close to the building line because of the upward curve it makes in operating.

WORK HAD BEEN SUSPENDED

Tomassello, through his lawyer, Samuel L. Bailen, notified the district attorney that the Tomassello company and Pultz, Inc., contractors, entered into an agreement March 24 last, and that work under this alleged contract was begun by Tomassello April 14 and suspended May 15, "in order to allow the Pultz company, or their representatives, to complete the underpinning or the collapsed building."

Atty. Bailen directed the district attorney's attention to what he contend to be in the contract, an agreement that Fultz was "to do all sheathing and shoring necessary to protect the adjoining building and banks," and for that reason the work by the Tomassello company was suspended and was not resumed until June 19.

It is the contention of the Tomassello company that it engaged four men to operate the shovel and that the removal of the ground at or near the building line was all done by hand and not by Tomassello's men, the Tomassello company attending only to the steam shovel work.

DELAYED BY COLLAPSE OF PICKWICK CLUB HERE

The inquiry was considerably delayed because of the physical condition of Timothy Barry, president of the Pickwick Club. He was before the jurors five times during the day and early evening. Each time he came out of the room he was in a state of collapse and wept bitterly. Once, he was assisted from the grand jury room to the anteroom where Court Officer Arthur Crowley took care of him. He was excused, at this time, for three hours, the district attorney hoping that he would recover his composure sufficiently by then to warrant his appearance again before that body and enable him to give his testimony without further interruption.

When he was in the room only a short time when once more he had to be relieved of the ordeal of interrogation by assistants to the district attorney. Again he sat on a chair and wept. His whole frame shook violently at times and he buried his face in his hands as he cried.

The last time he appeared before the jurors was shortly before the hour of adjournment. When they took their recess they found him in the corridor outside the door leading to their room, his eyes swollen from his tears.

FULLER FOR VIGOROUS HANDLING OF CASE

Gov. Fuller is desirous of the vigorous prosecution of any persons found to be criminally responsible for the collapse, with its attendant loss of life and to this end he has instructed Atty.-Gen. Benton to give Dist.-Atty. O'Brien such aid as might be needed in bringing to speedy justice those responsible for the disaster.

Yesterday Dist.-Atty. O'Brien had a talk with Atty.-Gen. Benton. The attorney-general asked the district attorney if his assistance was necessary in conducting the investigation. The district attorney said that although his present staff is able to handle the wealth of detail brought forth in the inquiry, he has two men on vacation, so some assistance would be welcomed to fill the gap caused by the absence of the two assistants.

ASSIGNS MEN TO HELP

Atty.-Gen. Benton assigned his assistants, Lewis Goldberg and Melville Fuller Weston and Police Inspector John Mitchell, specifically attached to the attorney-general's office, to give such aid as may be necessary to the proper and speedy conduct of the grand jury inquiry.

O'Brien and Goldberg have quarters in a room adjoining that of the grand jury room. There is a door leading into the sanctum of the grand inquisitors. All witnesses first go into the anteroom and tell their story to the district attorney and to Goldberg, the Governor thereby having his own representative present in the person of the assistant attorney-general, thus getting the first hand information that he was desirous of obtaining.

SEARCH FOR LAW THAT IS APPLICABLE TO CASE

Asst. Atty.-Gen. Weston is co-operating with Charles G. Smith, Jr., who is attached to O'Brien's office, over the law books to find that applicable to the matters testified to before the grand jury. These two men have been working unceasingly over books relative to the building code of the city of Boston and acts governing criminal negligence in matters of this kind.

As O'Brien and Goldberg and their questioning of a witness called, if they deem his testimony of sufficient value for the grand jurors to hear, they send that person into the grand jury room, where Asst. Dist.-Attys. Maurice Caro and George Alpert put the witnesses through a grilling examination for the benefit of the grand jurors.

GOING BACK AND FORTH

All yesterday, there was a doubling and redoubling of footsteps into the grand jury room by some witnesses. After they had made their first appearance, they were told to remain in the anteroom for further use. Some were called more than five times. As the investigation went on, the number of witnesses became larger. A witness would make certain remarks concerning certain persons who had worked on the property adjoining that of the Pickwick Club building, then, that the grand jurors might get every bit of information obtainable in their endeavor to fix liability. They were sent to

Continued
next
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John
Lam

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evidence that it was clear in the mind of the jurors.

KEPT ON JUMP ALL DAY CALLING FOR WITNESSES

In consequence of this, Inspectors James A. Dennessy and Harry Pierce and Special Officer George H. McCaffrey were kept on the jump all day telephoning to employers to send certain employees to the district attorney's office and sending out summonses to others whose presence was wanted, but who could not be reached without process being served on them.

At a certain part in the taking of testimony, the presence of "Nat" Clark, John Glynn and Mike Ward, who used to conduct the Greenwich Village Cafe, underneath the Pickwick Club, was desired. Effort was made to reach these men.

HAD TO SEND SUMMONS

Clark, who used to be an assistant to John M. Casey, censor of the city of Boston, was reached by telephone and asked to respond to the call. He declined. Court Officer Arthur J. Crowley was dispatched to Clark's home at Nantasket on order of Inspector Pierce, with a summons commanding his presence. Clark was at the district attorney's office about 7 o'clock.

Effort was made to locate Ward, who used to be secretary to Mayor Curley. Except for the information that he is on a vacation, nothing more concerning him could be learned. No one seemed to know where he went or how long he will be away.

Glynn is a brother of Fire Commissioner Glynn. His wife said he was on a fishing trip and that she would notify him that he was wanted at the grand jury room as soon as she could communicate with him. Glynn responded to the call.

The district attorney sent for Building Inspectors David Hastie and Joseph M. Anderson of the building department. Nothing could be learned about the nature of their visit.

When Glynn and Clark appeared at the district attorney's office, they said that they had had nothing to do with the Greenwich Village Cafe since the Monday after Easter, when they disposed of their interest to Roslyn Clark and Harry Larkin. They declared that while they were in the building, neither had ever noticed any vibration from the dances and pointed out that their cafe closed at night before the activities at the Pickwick Club started. They added that the arrangement whereby food was obtained in the Pickwick Club from the Greenwich Village Cafe was one made by the Pickwick Club management with the cafe chef, Timothy Barry, treasurer of the Pickwick Club, who had been a witness earlier in the day, was before the grand jury on its return from supper.

WAS LOOKING FOR BARRY

An agent of the industrial accident board was at the district attorney's office looking for Barry, to ascertain from him his reason for not notifying the board of the number of dead or injured in the building collapse. The law is that any person or corporation employing labor, whether covered by insurance or not, must within 48 hours after an accident, simple injury or death, notify the board. Barry, the agent contends, failed to do this. Criminal action can be instituted and a fine of \$50 imposed. Barry declined to talk with the agent when the subject was broached and asked him to go with him to the office of his lawyer, Thomas N. Creed, where an arrangement was made by which an extension of time was permitted in filing the information.

VARIETY OF WITNESSES

Contractors, foremen, steam-shovel engineers and others testified yesterday. Those who appeared before the

grand jury included: Michael Hirschberg, waiter; Louis Eppel, secretary of the licensing board; Mildred McGilvray of 36 Shawmut avenue, Revere, a survivor; Hyman Bloomberg, lessee of the property; Charles Bliss, an employee of a real estate agency; John M. Casey, city censor; Lawrence Perkins, foreman; Nathan Fritz, contractor; Charles R. Leary, foundation foreman. John M. Tobin, superintendent, and Pasquale Angelo, steam shovel operator.

Before he was called to testify, President Barry of the club asserted that, in his opinion, the fact that the bodies of only 13 women had been recovered indicated that the dance floor had not been overcrowded.

HAD TAKEN HIS WIFE AND MOTHER TO CLUB

He placed the dimensions of the dancing area as 35 by 28 feet. He denied that he had been warned that the building was unsafe, and cited as proof of this that twice within the last two weeks, his wife and his mother had been his guests in the establishment for hours.

As to the moral conditions which obtained in the Pickwick Club, Mr. Barry said that he had offered a free membership to J. Frank Chase of the Watch and Ward Society, and had invited him to send his agents there at any time. Chase told him, Barry said, that his men already were visiting the club.

DENIES ANY TRICK LOCK

Barry denied that there was a "trick" lock on the door to the club, and insisted that the door could readily be opened by anyone from the inside.

Hirshberg, the first witness yesterday, at first had been believed to be among the victims of the disaster. He was before the grand jury for an hour.

Another man called as a witness was Hugh Urquhart, who installed the elevator in the club building last March. He declared that the wall of the building was 16 inches thick at the top and 36 at the bottom. It is said that the building department understood that the floors were for the storage of machinery and were capable of bearing a weight of 150 pounds to the square foot.

WEIGHT WELL BELOW

MAXIMUM OF 360,000

A floor with approximately 2400 square feet was capable, then, of holding 360,000 pounds. On the morning of the collapse, about 150 persons were in the clubroom—their total weight being well below that maximum of 360,000.

Police Inspector Harry Pierce was dispatched yesterday with a summons for Wilbur F. Turner, handwriting expert. The district attorney would not say in what connection the testimony of this expert was sought.

WITNESSES SUMMONED

The witnesses summoned before the grand jury, in its inquiry into the disaster, included:

Patrolman Frank Mullen, station 4.

Inspector James Dennessy, police headquarters.

Capt. Ainsley C. Armstrong, police headquarters.

Special Officer William Hartigan, station 4.

Fireman Malcolm McIntosh, engine 26.

William Glennon, 86 Marcella street, leader Pickwick Club orchestra.

Dr. Timothy Leary, medical examiner.

Timothy Barry, 73 Audubon road, proprietor of Pickwick Club.

Nathan Fritz, 62 Maywood street, contractor who was working on Pickwick Club building.

George Funk, architect, engaged on the same operation with Fritz.

John L. Plutz, head of Plutz, Inc., contractors.

John M. Tobin, vice-president of Plutz, Inc.

Lawrence J. Perkins, foreman for Plutz, Inc.

Matthew M. McIntosh, night watchman for Plutz, Inc., who says he saw doomed building collapse.

Augustine J. Gill, police stenographer.

Charles R. Leary, foreman for contractor who reinforced foundations of Pickwick Club building.

H. Bloomberg, lessee, who sub-leased premises to Pickwick Club.

Chief Daniel F. Sennott, fire department.

Deputy Chief Edward J. Shallow, fire department.

District Chief Charles Donahue, fire department.

Building Commissioner John H. Mahony.

Sgt. John F. Montague, station 4.

William J. Reed, foreman for A. G. Tomasello & Son, Inc.

George E. Calahan, "bouncer" at Pickwick Club.

Rocco Scarparta, alias Teddy Williams, Pickwick Club singer.

District Inspector James J. Hendrick, Boston building department.

John J. Sullivan, volunteer who helped recover bodies.

Patrolman Robert J. Dalton, station 4.

M. E. Hopkins, architect on Plutz, Inc., operation.

Frederic W. Cook, secretary of state.

Henry F. Long, commissioner of corporations.

District Chief Victor H. Richer, fire department.

Joseph A. Tomasello, contractor.

Arthur McNeill, Pickwick Club guest, who escaped.

Charles R. Gow, contractor who put in cement underpinning.

Capt. Herbert W. Goodwin, station 4.

Patrolman Frank B. Callahan, station 4.

Michael Hirshberg, waiter in Pickwick Club.

Patrick Curran, piano player in Pickwick Club.

Martin Kane, Boston building department inspector, who approved cement work.

William F. Turner, handwriting expert.

Frank Decker, singer at Pickwick Club.

Al Davis, porter at Pickwick Club.

Mildred McGilvry, 36 Shawmut street, Revere, a guest at Pickwick Club.

RESUME WORK TODAY

After Joseph A. Tomasello had been before the grand jury, his lawyer, Mr. Ballen, asked the district attorney when the Tomasello Contracting Company could begin again steam shovel work at the excavation adjoining the property where the disaster occurred. The district attorney gave them permission to resume work today.

GLOBE - JULY 9-1925

DEMANDS MAYOR LOCATE HER RELATIVES' BODIES

N1
**Brockton Woman Claims Her Uncle and Aunt Buried
In Cemetery Here Now Used as Playground**

JUL 9 1925

GLOBE

Written demand upon Mayor Curley to locate two bodies buried a century ago in old Warren Cemetery, Kearsarge av, which is now used as a playground for Roxbury Latin School pupils, has been made by Harriet E. Gardner of 118 Highland st, Brockton.

John and Lucy Watt, the woman's uncle and aunt, are the persons buried. The woman presumes the bodies still lie beneath what is now the playground and demands the right to fence the surface over them when they are re-located, or else that the city provide suitable last resting places for them in Forest Hills Cemetery.

The woman visited her old home section in Roxbury a year ago, after a long absence, and saw children playing on what was the former cemetery ground. The city had leased the ground to the private Latin school, and all traces of the old burial ground had been effaced. The woman, only living relative of the Watts, protested that her consent never had been obtained to proceed thus.

The old Boston Board of Health controlled the cemetery until 1890, and the Aldermen voted then to permit that part of the cemetery not given over to tombs to be used as a playground for Roxbury Latin School and Winthrop-st primary school. Later an order passed by the Common Council that all headstones and inscriptions were to be carefully packed away in one of the empty tombs, the tomb to be locked and sealed and the key placed in the possession of the City Registrar. On June 12 an order came down amended so that "in all cases where the removal of remains is not requested by the representatives of the persons interred, the ground shall be filled and graded above the level of the graves."

The minutes of the Common Council, together with Full Documents 81 and 159, give the story of the conversion of the old burial ground into a playground and a history of the property. The ground was bought in 1818 by the First Parish in Roxbury and was used as a burying ground for many years, according to B. F. Brown, who wrote the report for his committee. In 1841 the Church Society gave the land to the town and for some eight years it was used as a public cemetery. In 1849 the city of Roxbury forbade further interments. In 1868, by annexation, all the rights and duties of the city of Roxbury were vested in the city of Boston. In 1883 the city prohibited further interments in the tombs.

Seven years later, on March 29, 1890,

N2
the cemetery committee gave a public hearing on the petition of the trustees of the Roxbury Latin School for the use of the whole or part of the burying ground for school purposes. The committee obtained an opinion from the corporation counsel as to the legal power of the city, and voted that the petition should be granted.

J. B. Richardson was corporation counsel at the time. He ruled on two questions, namely: Has the city any right to remove the remains in the graves of the Kearsarge burial ground on Kearsarge av, Roxbury, and if the city has such a right, can it, after removing such remains, grant the petitioners, the trustees of the Roxbury Latin School, the use of the land for a playground?

Expert Opinion Given

N2
It was Mr Richardson's opinion that the remains could be removed and the grounds used for other public purposes, the removal of the remains being done only after notice, so far as possible, to representatives or kindred of others buried there. He had doubt, however, whether the city could give the exclusive use of the ground, after the remains have been removed, to the petitioning school, a private corporation. Certainly, he added, the city ought to reserve the use, or right to its use, for the scholars of its primary school on Winthrop st, which adjoins the grounds and no contract should be made by which the city would be prevented from using the ground for other public purposes.

Accordingly, the Common Council adopted the order which was submitted by its committee on cemeteries, to the effect that the portion of the burial ground not occupied by tombs "may be used for the purposes of a school yard or playground for the Roxbury Latin School, the Winthrop-st primary school and the pupils of other public schools of the city, upon the proper disposition of the remains there interred as herein-after provided, upon the condition that the expense of removing or reinterring the remains, fencing round the tombs, and preparing the grounds for such use, be borne by the trustees of the Roxbury Latin School."

It was also provided in the order that before the burial ground was converted into a playground a notice should be published for 30 days in two or more daily papers in the city, the last publication to be within 10 days at least before any remains are removed or the ground is broken and shall be sent by mail to the relatives of per-

N3
sons interred, when the names and addresses of such relatives are known, setting the proposed change of use, offering to remove the remains, when such removal is requested, to suitable places of burial in the city, and requesting said relatives to designate such places of interment as they prefer-

Three Questions for City

Furthermore, it was provided that the removal of the remains and the resetting of headstones should be made under the direction of the Board of Health and the City Registrar, a plan of the same showing the places of second interment in each case to be made and placed in the hands of the City Registrar and kept by him for future reference. "In all cases where the removal of remains is not requested by the representatives of persons interred in the ground, it was decided, should be filled and graded above the level of the graves and the headstones in all such cases removed and preserved, and a record kept on said plan of the places from which they are taken and where they are preserved."

Where is the plan made by Garrett & Wood, surveyors, who were engaged by the Common Council to do this work? Where is the key to the tomb in which the headstones were placed? Where is the tomb itself?

These are three interesting questions for the city authorities to unravel if Miss Gardner brings suit for the recovery of the remains of her aunt and uncle. City Registrar Edward W. McGlenon has never heard of the key and plan supposed to be in his custody. They may have been preserved or they may have been lost when the Old Courthouse was taken down and the City Hall Annex erected on its site. There are many securely nailed boxes of supposed valuable data in the vaults of the city registry which have not been opened for years. A search, if it is ordered, might require many weeks. The city registrar at the time was the late William H. Whitmore.

The report of the surveyors, under date of Sept 22, 1890, contains no mention of the headstones of John and Lucy Watt in the record of 86 such stones which are mentioned, together with their inscriptions. Some stones were much worn by the weather and many inscriptions were partly illegible at the time of the survey. Some stones were broken, some had fallen and few were lying loose on the ground with no evidence of a surveyor reported that

continued on page

N 4 JULY - 9 1925

AMERICAN - JULY 6 1925

86 bodies were removed to Forest Hills and Mt Hope Cemeteries. No mention is made of the removal of other remains. Nor do the records of the Health Department disclose any information of this sort. In fact, the only record in the Health Department concerning the transfer of the burial ground is contained in a few lines, a mere statement of fact.

Another interesting phase of the situation concerns Miss Gardner's statement that her grandfather "bought the land in good faith" from the town of Roxbury. According to the records a statement made by the corporation council at the time the land was first conveyed by Samuel Bugbee to the First Parish by deed in 1818 and, according to the Park Department officials, now in charge of cemeteries, it does not appear that the lots were sold or conveyed, or that any written agreements or contracts were made in regard to the interments or graves. It is understood that interments were made by oral permission or assent at the request of any parson living in the parish, or perhaps in the town of Roxbury.

TECH TO ASSIST PICKWICK PROBE

Concrete Blocks Taken
There for Tests

Two More of Disaster Dead
Identified by Friends

— GLOBE —
Thousands Visit Scene as
Beach St Is Opened

JULY 9 1925

A block of concrete weighing four tons was removed yesterday from the ruins of the Pickwick Club and taken to Massachusetts Institute of Technology for examination by Profs Edward F. Miller and A. F. Smith, who were appointed by Pres Samuel W. Stratton on suggestion of Mayor Curley. They have agreed to give their services to the city without cost.

Another smaller block was also taken. These blocks were part of the concrete which was poured to help support the Pickwick Building after the next door excavation had been made. On Tuesday a 200-pound section was sent to Watertown Arsenal. Each test will require about two days.

TWO MORE IDENTIFIED

Yesterday two more bodies which were taken from the wreckage were identified. One was the body of Charles "Happy" Whalen, 29, a lodger at 20 Common st. He was identified by George R. Bell of 53 Harvard st, South End. He is said to be survived by two brothers, one employed by a gas company and the other living at Broadway, South End.

The other identification was that of Thomas McManus of 206 Broadway, South End, and was made by Harry Bainbridge of the same address. McManus is survived by relatives at Salem. Some further damage resulted yesterday from the collapse. A water main in front of the demolished building cracked as a result of the strain to which it has been subjected, and flooded the cellar at 672 Washington st, the ground floor of which is occupied by Thompson's Restaurant. The break occurred shortly before dawn, depositing a foot of water in the cellar.

BEACH ST AGAIN OPENED

Much food was destroyed by the flood, and workmen were at once set to digging, so the main could be repaired. When the original crash occurred the water supply in the restaurant was cut off, and it had to close down. Before doing so, the employees fed sandwiches and coffee to firemen and rescue workers.

At 9:45 yesterday morning Beach st. was opened to traffic for the first time since Saturday morning. Vehicles were permitted to move only in one direction, from Harrison av to Washington st.

The northern sidewalk, nearest to the ruins, was roped off, and the southern side of the street was traversed by thousands during the day. The police allowed people to walk along the sidewalk because store proprietors along the street suffered loss of business in that customers were unable to get through to the places of business. The crowds were kept moving, however, and were not permitted to congregate.

STRENGTHEN WALLS NEARBY

All morning the workmen were busy shoring up the rear wall of the building at the corner of Beach and Washington sts. The Grand Garden Restaurant, an American-Chinese restaurant, on the second floor of the corner building, was permitted to open for business, and Gordon's Olympia Theatre held its regular shows.

During the task of cleaning up, a stone 3½ feet by 5½ feet was found on top of a crushed wheelbarrow.

Medical Examiner Timony Leary said that he had in his possession at the Southern Mortuary a peculiar-shaped vanity case containing \$8. He is looking for a claimant.

Secretary of State Frederic W. Cook said he had no knowledge of a forged charter of the Broadway Sporting Club having been submitted to him or any other official in connection with the petition of the club to change its name to "the Lambs' Club."

CITY TO DELAY AMERICAN DAMAGE CLAIM OF \$280,000

Mayor Will Not Approve Com-
modore Hotel Payment
Pending Inquiry ✓

Ira W. Shapira, trustee of the Hotel Commodore at Broadway and Tremont street, apparently will have to wait some time before he receives a check for \$280,000 from the City of Boston, for the hotel property taken in connection with the proposed widening of Tremont street.

Mayor Curley and the finance commission have completed a set-to over the payment of the damages, with Corporation Counsel Mark Sullivan putting an oar into the controversy.

The upshot of the entire affair seems to be that the mayor will not favor the payment of the money until the city's legal department advises him that the city's interests are safeguarded. The finance commission, it appears, is in favor of the same thing, which is unusual.

The controversy started when the finance commission sent a note to the mayor suggesting that the payment of the money to the hotel trustee be held up. There are several damage suits pending, in connection with cancelled leases of the hotel property, and it is feared, the commission stated, that the city might have to pay damages twice.

The major promptly sent a reply to the letter of the finance commission setting forth that he would accept the judgment of the authorities constituted under the law to pass upon the legal questions involved, namely, the corporation counsel.

Then Mr. Sullivan sent a letter to the finance commission announcing that he would "give due consideration to the rights of all claimants against the city, but with an eye for the city's best interests and protection."

July 9th

TELEGRAM - JULY 9 - 1925

Schoolhouse Comm'r Through With Curley Gang and Contract Rows

The Boston Telegram has determined after a careful investigation that Mayor James M. Curley incorrectly informed the newspapers of Boston when he declared that he did not remove James J. Mahar as school house commissioner.

The Telegram has a statement from Mr. Mahar that he was, absolutely, removed, and that he will not return to his office in City Hall. He declares that he never took a dollar dishonestly in his life, and never will.

A false statement was that which Mayor Curley issued, and he knew it to be false when he issued it; and The Boston Telegram defies him to deny it. Mayor Curley's communication to the newspapers follows:

"The statement appearing in the press this day to the effect that James J. Mahar, school house commissioner, had been discharged, is an absolute untruth.

"My relations with Mr. Mahar have always been of a most pleasant nature and his work as a school house commissioner and as a heating engineer has always been eminently satisfactory.

"I regard Mr. Mahar as a highly efficient and eminently capable public official. Mr. Mahar has neither tendered his resignation, nor can I conceive of any good reason for his removal.

"Signed, JAMES M. CURLEY."

Line after line in the above is false.

Curley told Mahar that he was discharged, and said he would send him a formal, written notice within a few days.

Mahar was fired by Curley, according to Mahar's own statement; and Mahar is neither a liar nor a crook, so every priest in South Boston will tell you.

Mahar would not for millions sign or take part in any proposition that had a crooked taint.

The Boston Finance Commission should have a public hearing on this proposition. Let it summons Curley, and put him under oath.

Mahar has already started action, and, before he gets through, the roof of City Hall will blow off.

The Finance Commission will find out all the facts, and these should be made public immediately.

The Telegram is interested in the fight of James J. Mahar, simply because Curley fired him without cause and because Mahar, we believe, is absolutely on the level.

Mr. Mahar is a native of South Boston. He came from honest Irish parents. He worked himself through school, graduated from the parochial schools and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He went to City Hall 23 years ago, and worked up from the ranks.

He hates a crook, and especially, one of the thieving, grafting type.

He spends his evenings conducting classes in the Boston Young Mens' Catholic Union, at Boston College High, not charging a penny for his services.

He is a trustee of the Home of Destitute Catholic Children, and has worked hard for the good of the poor. Every Catholic priest in South Boston is a great admirer of Mahar, and Protestant clergymen as well.

Curley made one of the gravest of the many mistakes of his political life when he fired Mahar, and Curley knows it.

The Finance Commission will perform some great team work with the taxpayers if it will conduct a public hearing on the Mahar and Curley controversy.

AMERICAN - JV44-9-1925

CURLEY urges aiding fund

James M. Curley, Mayor of Boston, has contributed \$25 to the twin fund started by the Boston Evening American for the families of Police Inspector Benjamin Alexander and Patrolman Paul F. Halloran, who were killed in the Pickwick Club disaster, July 4.

Not only did His Honor contribute to the fund, but in a letter that accompanied the donation he advised every citizen of Boston to do likewise.

AMERICAN JULY 1925
Mayor Curley's letter to the editor of the Boston Evening American follows:

"Dear Sir—Assure you it is a pleasure to send my mite to the Boston Evening American Fund in behalf of the families of the late Benjamin Alexander and Paul F. Halloran.

"Will you further accept my assurance of deep appreciation of the service of the Boston Evening American in providing so material an aid to two deserving families, who have been sadly bereaved by death.

"I sincerely trust that every citizen of Boston will contribute to the Fund, so necessary to the welfare of those dependent for support upon the labors of two deserving public officials, whose lives were sacrificed in the line of duty."

The Mayor also turned over to the fund another check for \$50 sent to him by William H. Thayer of the United States Radiator Corporation. Mr. Thayer's letter to the Mayor, accompanying his check, was as follows:

"I enclose herewith check for \$50, payable to your order, and would ask that you kindly forward \$25 to each of the families of the two unfortunate policemen who met death while in the performance of their duty at the Pickwick Club.

"I regret to bother you with this detail, but knew of no quick method of having these funds reach the proper parties except through you."

ALEXANDER ON DUTY.

Despite rumors that have spread around town to the effect that Inspector Alexander was not on duty when killed in the Pickwick Club collapse, Police Commissioner Herbert Wilson assured the Boston Evening American that he was on duty. He was there for the purpose of apprehending a jewel thief whom he expected would drop into the club early that morning. At the time that Inspector Alexander was

crushed to death in the pit of he had a picture of the jewel thief in his pocket to a in identifying him, according to Commissioner Wilson. Another inspector had been with Benn Alexander on the same task up to a short time prior to the accident.

That the dependents of both men merit whatever sum may be raised in their behalf is indicated by the records of both. Alexander was one of the best loved men on the Boston police force and had many important captures to his credit. He knew the underworld as few men know it and always knew where to look for information when any big "job" was "pulled" in Boston or any other large eastern city.

Although Patrolman Halloran had been on the Boston force a much shorter time, he was credited with having done excellent work. He saved a boy from drowning and captured one of the worst holdup men that ever terrorized this city. Prior to becoming a policeman he did his bit in six of the principal battles of the World War as a member of Battery B, 101st Field Artillery.

He fought at Chateau Thierry, Chemin des Dames, St. Mihiel and Verdun, as well as in many minor engagements. He was a credit to the Boston police force.

Inspector Alexander leaves six children, all too young to work, and a widow. Halloran leaves a widow. With their breadwinners suddenly removed from their midst these eight persons will need many a lift during the next few years. This twin-fund was started by the Boston Evening American to provide those lifts and will be assisted by prominent men of integrity in handling and disbursing the money.

TECH TO HELP PREVENT ANOTHER PICKWICK CRAS

President Stratton Approves Cu
ley's Plan for Forming New
Building Code.

TRANSCRIPT

Out of the Pickwick Club catastrophe has come the offer from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, through President S. W. Stratton, "to be of any assistance possible in the establishment of suitable building and inspection codes." This communication was received by Mayor Curley today while city, county and State continued their investigations into the collapse of the building housing the night club.

A 2
early on the morning of July 4. The grand jury, pending these investigations and a visit to the site this afternoon by engineers, went on with routine business. In all probability there will be no report of their findings, or will indictments be returned, until tomorrow.

President Stratton's offer, in which a third technical expert is named, is contained in the following letter to the mayor:

Precaution for the Future

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 7 suggesting the possibility of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology designating a group of three professors or experts in construction or architecture to make a study of the probable cause of the collapse of the building occupied by the Pickwick Club at Beach street, Boston, with a view to securing the information necessary for the adoption of certain rules, regulations and laws as may be necessary for the purpose of preventing such disasters in the future.

In reply I would say that I have asked Professor E. F. Miller, Professor C. B. Breed and Major A. S. Smith, superintendent of buildings, to confer with you regarding the duties of such a committee.

"I fear, however, that it may be too late to secure first-hand information, and that there is a possibility of such a committee going over ground that has already been covered. On the other hand, your suggestion that the committee may be of assistance in the adoption of such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for the protection of the public against such accidents is one that appeals to me very strongly, and I can assure you that the Institute will be pleased to be of any assistance possible in the establishment of suitable building and inspection codes."

Further Study by Engineers

The engineers who are in the service of the district attorney's office, the mayor and of the estate of Albert R. Rosenthal, owners of the building, planned to visit the scene this afternoon. According to Albert Hurwitz and Albert Ginsberg, counsel for the Rosenthal estate, their engineers, Professor George E. Swain of the Lawrence Scientific School at Harvard and Mark Lenenthal, are satisfied that the structure of the building was safe and that dancing had little to do with the catastrophe compared to the removal of lateral support to the concrete piers.

The engineers planned to examine the "beams" or the flange under the concrete uprights of the building and also soil conditions on the site. The district attorney's office is represented in this study by Guy Emerson, John R. Lotz, Elton A. Bowman and John O. DeWolf.

TELEGRAFI - JULY 9-1928

RECORDS SHOW PICKWICK HAD CITY HALL PULL

TELEGRAM

Dr. Conrad Led Fight for
Regulation and Licensing
of All Dives

The "pull" which notorious
night clubs of Boston had at
City Hall was laid bare by in-
vestigators of the Pickwick club
horror today. *JUL 9 1925*

Mayor Curley opposed con-
trol and regulation of them by
other than the mayor and offi-
cials appointed by him. He
fought and killed an attempt by
the Legislature to bring these
dives under stronger and
stricter control.

It was in the form of an act
"to provide for licensing and
regulating semi-public dance-
and dance halls," offered in the
Legislature last February.

Rev. Dr. A. Z. Conrad of the Par-
St. church led the fight for passag-
of it.

Mayor Curley directed the opposi-
tion and won.

When the Pickwick club collapsed
hurling 44 men and women to suc-

den and fearful death, Mayor Cur-
ley issued a statement, attributed
to Building Commr. John H.
Mahony. *L2*

"The recommendations of the
mayor to the Legislature for three
years indicate that the mayor
sought jurisdiction over resorts
of the type of the Pickwick club,
in order that adequate supervision
might apply as in other places
licensed by the mayor. In every
attempt to gain this authority the
Legislature has reported 'leave to
withdraw.'"

The bill last February hit road-
houses, night clubs and places of
like nature.

Dr. Conrad declared: "These re-
sorts are run by shameless men
who fatten on the ruined charac-

ters and destroyed bodies and souls
of our young people." *L3*

H. Murray Pakulski, assistant
corporation counsel for the city of
Boston, appeared for Mayor Cur-
ley, and contended the existing
law was sufficient to control all
such places. He classed the pro-
posed law with the Volstead act.

The existing law, as pointed out
by Commr. of Public Safety Foote,
puts the responsibility clearly and
squarely upon Mayor Curley, Build-
ing Commr. Mahony and the build-
ing inspector appointed by the
mayor.

Telegram Demands O'Brien Put Curley on the Grill

The Pickwick Club catastrophe is conclusive proof of the
rotteness of the Curley administration of the city gov-
ernment of Boston.

The disaster, which exacted an appalling toll of
human life, is directly attributable to the failure of
Mayor James M. Curley, head of the city government
of Boston, to give the city efficient, decent and clean
government.

TELEGRAM

Mayor Curley is responsible for the appointment
of John M. Mahony, building commissioner, and the
possessor of almost unlimited authority over every
structure in the city of Boston.

Building Commissioner Mahony was responsible
for the safety of the Beach st., building in which was
located the quarters of the notorious Pickwick Club.

This five-story, antiquated structure, swept by a
recent fire, which wrought serious damage to the sus-
taining timbers, collapsed early Saturday morning less
than 36 hours after it had been inspected by one of Ma-
hony's assistants and pronounced to be safe for oc-
cupancy. *JUL 9 1925*

The building was not safe for occupancy. Its col-
lapse is conclusive proof. Why was it permitted to be
occupied?

District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien is the one re-
sponsible official upon whom rests the burden of plac-
ing the responsibility for the catastrophe.

The Boston Telegram demands of Mr. O'Brien
that he summon Mayor James M. Curley and Building
Commr. John M. Mahony before the Suffolk County
Grand Jury and compel them to divulge the facts about
the Pickwick Club and about the dilapidated building
in which the resort was operated as a night club.

The Boston Telegram demands that no one be
spared in an honest effort to fix the blame for the
catastrophe.

The disaster is not a matter of splitting architect's
fees, or cutting up contracts for schoolhouses or similar
municipal matters. It is a catastrophe in which a vast
toll of human life has been taken.

The rotteness of the Curley administration has
now been exposed. It remains for the district attorney
to get the rest of the story of the Pickwick club, the
most notorious resort ever permitted to be operated
in Boston, and operated, seemingly, with the
and full consent of the management.

640BE - JULY 9-1921

TELEGRAM - JULY 9-1921

GRAND JURY INQUIRY MAY KEEP UP INTO FRIDAY

6705 JULY 9 1921
**Prosecutor Interviews Prominent Engineers Who
Have Seen Pickwick Club Foundations**

Pickwick Club matters did not get before the Suffolk County Grand Jury this morning and the body was busy cari's for routine criminal affairs. There does not appear to be much chance of the Grand Jury reporting tonight and it is believed the investigation may run into tomorrow.

The Grand Jury expressed a desire to view the concrete supports and bases, but up to noon today the workmen had not progressed to such an extent as to make the desired view possible. It was believed yesterday that the jury could see the bases and supports by 8 p.m., but that was impossible because of water filtering in and interfering with the uncovering of the bases.

Last night the opinion was that the Grand Jury would be able to get its view this morning, but there was a further postponement. Noted engineers representing the district attorney's office, Mayor Curley and the Rosenthal estate, have examined the scene of the disaster and this morning all were in conference with Asst Dist Atty George Alpert.

The engineers representing Dist Atty Thomas C. O'Brien's office are Guy Emerson, Bion A. Bowman, John O. de Wolfe and John R. Lotz. Maj Albert F. Smith and Prof Edward F. Miller of Technology made a study for Mayor Curley, and Prof George F. Swain of the Engineering School at Harvard and Mark Lenenthal represent the Albert R. Rosenthal estate, owner of the building.

Dist Atty O'Brien Is Limping

Dist Atty O'Brien this morning limped around his office. Before noon he received attention from his family physician, Dr Francis Broderick of Jamaica Plain, who came to Mr O'Brien's office. The district attorney slipped in



the excavation on Beach st. last night. In recovering his balance he pulled a tendon, which caused a painful, though not serious injury. Mr O'Brien said that his slight injury would not interfere with, nor delay the Grand Jury proceedings.

Albert Hurwitz and Albert A. Ginsburg, counsel for the Rosenthal estate, explained to newspapermen the circumstances leading up to the occupation of the property by the Pickwick Club. The property, originally known as 660-670 Washington st and 6-10 Beach st, was leased by the Schulte Company from John W. Flavin, for a period of 21 years, and later was bought by Albert R. Rosenthal, subject to the Schulte lease. The latter leased to Bloomberg, who sublet to Timothy Barry, who in turn let to the Pickwick Club. Hurwitz said.

Engineers Again Visit Site

Engineers representing the office of Dist Atty O'Brien made another trip to Beach st today and examined the supports and surroundings of the Pickwick Building. The cause of the special trip was not made public, but it is believed it was occasioned by the conference of engineers representing the district attorney, Mayor and the lessee of the property.

Prof E. F. Miller and C. B. Breed of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and A. S. Smith, superintendent of its plant, will report their findings on the Beach-st building collapse to Dist Atty O'Brien.

Mr O'Brien telephoned Mr Curley about the matter this forenoon, and the Mayor immediately requested the three men to communicate their conclusions to O'Brien.

TELEGRAM
**Curley Admits
O'Brien Probe
Has First Call**

Mayor Curley has finally decided to let Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien do all the investigating into the Pickwick club disaster, notwithstanding that the mayor asked for engineers from M. I. T. to look over the ruins and make recommendations.

Today in answer to his letter requesting assistance, S. W. Stratton, president of Tech. wrote Mayor Curley suggesting Profs. E. F. Miller and C. B. Breed and Maj. A. S. Smith to confer with him. He offered the cooperation of the institute.

Mayor Curley forwarded a letter to Messrs. Miller and Smith informing them that Dist. Atty. O'Brien is looking for the facts and suggesting they communicate with him.

STATE SUES FOR TAXES

TELEGRAM
Writ Served on City Collector and His Bonding Company for Taxes Un-collected from 1895 to 1922

Attorney General Benton has brought suit against City Collector William M. McMorrow for uncollected taxes between 1895 and 1922, totalling \$1,845,951.38. The proceeding is in accordance with Chapter 60 of the General Laws, which authorizes suits against city and town collectors and their bondsmen for arrearages.

Mr. McMorrow is bonded by the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company in the sum of \$75,000, and this concern is named in the writ issued by Chief Justice Hall of the Superior Court, which is returnable Sept. 1.

Mr. McMorrow's service as collector began in 1922, the last year mentioned in the writ. Frank S. Deland and Edwin V. B. Parke were collectors in the Peters administration, the years covered in the four preceding years.

For the period mentioned there are unpaid taxes as follows: Polls, \$1,002,670.00; real estate, \$296,042.65; personal, \$487,238.64.

TRANSCRIPT

TRAVEGER - JULY-10-1925

Two New Witnesses Go Before Crash Probers

Taken to Grand Jury Room After Telling Dist.-Atty.
O'Brien They Saw Pickwick Building
Sway Before Collapse

JUL 10 1925

TRAVELER

Two new witnesses, said to have seen the Pickwick Club building swaying for two days before the collapse, appeared before the grand jury this afternoon when that body resumed its probe of the disaster.

ENGINEERS TESTIFY

They first told their stories to Dist.-Atty. O'Brien, who in turn, presented them to the grand jury. They were followed by reports of several engineers.

There is slight chance of the grand jury submitting any report today to fix responsibility for the cave-in which caused 44 deaths.

There have been many tense moments while the engineers have been working on the investigation and it has been quite evident that many public officials are more than normally interested in the final report.

The proceedings are being keenly watched also by the lawyers representing relatives of the crash victims, and suits for damages which may total a million dollars are in prospect. As yet no hint has been furnished this group with regard to whom they will bring the civil suits against, but there is no secret being made of the fact that a keen battle for compensation is looming.

The engineers representing the district attorney will make their final examination of the ruins today, and it is expected will be ready to make their report to the grand jury.

MANY DELAYS

For two days the district attorney has expected the result of the examination of the premises by experts, but different things happened which prevented them from submitting the result of their observations. Their work was also retarded by the collapse of some ground at a point where the en-

gineers want to examine the cement piers and the ground immediately under the "bells," the base of the piers

mission claims that in December, 1920, M. F. Curley entered the employ of a department store at \$48.70 a week, working from 9 A. M. to 5.30 P. M. or even later if required, and that he has been continuously employed by the store since then. Meanwhile his city salary has been increased, it is said, from \$1200 to \$1500.

Immediately after he received the Finance Commission's report, Mayor Curley wrote Chairman M. H. Sullivan saying he had received the report, with reference to a constable employed by the street-laying-out department, and had sent it to that department "with a request for a report in full with reference to this case." "Upon receipt of this report (from the street department)," the mayor wrote, "I shall be prepared to take such action as, in my opinion and in the opinion of the street-laying-out department, may be deemed proper and desirable."

The statement that the commission sent to City Hall reads as follows:

Hon. James M. Curley, Mayor.

Sir—The Finance Commission was recently notified that Michael F. Curley, employed by the city of Boston as a constable in the Street Laying-Out Department, at a salary of \$1500 a year, was also employed full time by a private corporation.

Upon investigation the commission finds that on Dec. 27, 1920, Michael F. Curley, although an employee of the city, accepted a position with a department store as traffic manager, at a salary of \$48.70 a week, and has continued his service in that position to the present time. His hours of employment in this store are from 9 to 5.30, or later if his work requires him. Mr. Curley testified that he is a cousin of your honor and was appointed to the Street Laying-Out Department by your honor in 1914, at a salary of \$1200. During your honor's present administration his salary has been increased three times.

The commission had an examination made for returns of the notices served by Mr. Curley for the Street Laying-Out Department and could find none in the last four years. The last work which appeared to have been done by Mr. Curley was on Chelsea street, Charlestown, about five years ago. In other words, no visible evidence was found in the Street Laying-Out Department that Mr. Curley has been doing any work for the city for the last five years. He has, therefore, been collecting his salary illegally for that period, with the approval of the chairman of the Board of Street Commissioners.

It appears that the last increase of Michael F. Curley's salary was ordered by a vote of the Board of Street Commissioners only a few weeks ago. These officials must have known whether or not Michael F. Curley was or had been rendering any service to the city of Boston.

The case of Frank F. Magullion, already reported on, and the case of Henry Finke, and especially this latter case, all on the payroll of the Street Laying-Out Department, indicate that, at least in this department, a revision of the entire payroll should be made at once.

The Finance Commission recommends:
1.—That the name of Michael F. Curley be stricken from the payroll of the city.

2.—That the Law Department be instructed to recover the money which has been paid to him by the city during the time he has rendered no service to the city.

A copy of this report has been sent to the district attorney of Suffolk County.

Respectfully submitted,
THE FINANCE COMMISSION
By Michael H. Sullivan, Chairman.

TRANSCRIPT - JULY-10-1925

PICKWICK CLUB

WRECKER SAYS
HE SAW DEFECTS

TRANSCRIPT

While waiting to be called as a witness before the grand jury in the Pickwick Club case, John J. Goff, a building wrecker employed by the Fritz Construction Company, Inc., told newspapermen this afternoon that he had been employed to renovate the roof of the Pickwick Club after the fire some days before the July 4 disaster. On the Monday before the crash, Goff said he noticed several places where the building bulged, saw beams sagging and observed that the center wall on the top story was cracked from floor to ceiling.

The engineers have not completed their report regarding the possibility of the cause of the crash resulting from the removal of the lateral support from the cement piers underneath the building, but they have been in conference.

District Attorney O'Brien and two assistants, Maurice Caro and George Alpert, were busy all morning going over various phases of the case and expected to have at least one engineer go before the grand jury this afternoon.

"Everything up there was out of plumb," said Goff.

Goff said he called the attention of Nathan Fritz to these matters several times but that Fritz said everything was all right and for him to go on with the work.

On July 1, Goff said, he asked Fritz to pay him off. He told the newspapermen he said to Fritz: "This building is going to fall and you know it. I want to get out." To this he said Fritz replied: "You're full of coke." Forget it and go back to work." Goff said he replied, "All right, if it goes down, I won't go down alone."

Praise for Firemen JULY 10 1925

In his general orders, Fire Commissioner Theodore A. Glynn expresses his appreciation for the "distinguished character of service" rendered by the men who worked at the Beach street disaster from 8.01 A. M., July 4, to 10.45 A. M., July 7. The commissioner thanks the men "from the highest officer to the newest private, for what they did and the way they did it, and is grateful that the department again proved its worth in one of the most trying situations and terrible catastrophes that ever visited the city." In conclusion the commissioner points out that he adds his appreciation "to that of the countless citizens and officials who were in a position to observe the work of the fire department. The two-platoon system was forgotten, rank was forgotten, no task was too hard, there was no complaint concerning hours. The work rendered by the officers and members was a most creditable reflection on the character of the manhood of the Boston Fire Department, who seem ready to step into any emergency and relieve to the suffering."

TRANSCRIPT - JULY-10-1925

CLAIMS M. F. CURLEY PAID BY CITY WHILE WORKING ELSEWHERE

Finance Commission Notifies Mayor
and District Attorney of

Investigation

A1 JULY 10 1925

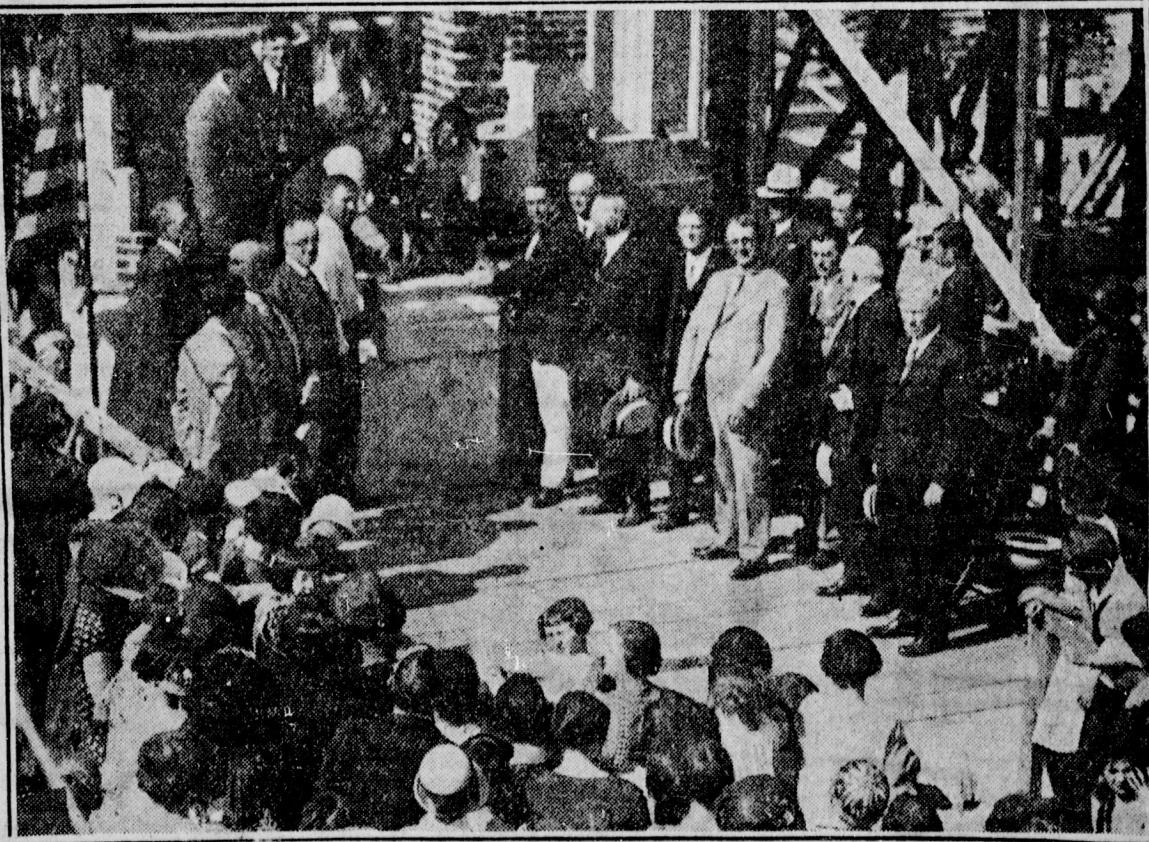
According to a report sent today to Mayor Curley and the Suffolk district attorney, the Finance Commission has investigated and is unable to find any "visible evidence in the street-laying-out department" that Michael F. Curley, who claims to be a cousin of the mayor, has done any work for the city for the past five years, although he has been employed to serve notice at a fixed salary. The com-

GLOBE - JULY 10 - 1925

CORNERSTONE OF EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL LAID BY E. MARK SULLIVAN

Corporation Counsel Plies Trowel in Absence of Mayor Curley During
CEREMONY AT \$1,400,000 BUILDING

GLOBE ✓



CORPORATION COUNSEL E. MARK SULLIVAN AT EAST BOSTON CEREMONIAL

The cornerstone of the \$1,400,000 East Boston High School was laid yesterday in an impressive ceremonial attended by more than 500 residents of that section. Corporation Counsel E. Mark Sullivan wielded the trowel in the absence of Mayor Curley, who was prevented from attending by the pressure of other duties.

The building, being erected on Eagle

Hill, is expected to be completed for the school year 1926.

Contained in the box which was placed in the cornerstone, were documents dealing with the history of the East Boston High School, a list of the present faculty, and copies of East Boston and of Boston newspapers.

During the ceremonial of trooping the colors Russell B. Woodward of the class of '25 sounded the bugle call. The exercises were presided over by Headmaster Bertram C. Richardson.

Tributes were paid Mayor Curley for the improvements which have been made in this section during his administration, by both Congressman John J. Douglass and James E. Maguire, editor of the East Boston Free Press, and president of the East Boston High School Alumni Association.

Other speakers were Chairman Thomas P. Glynn of the Schoolhouse Commission; Jeremiah E. Burke, superintendent of schools, and City Councilor William C. S. Healey.

AMERICAN - JULY-10-1925

Punish the Guilty,' Says the Man in the Street

JUL 10 1925

AMERICAN

Punishment must be meted out to those responsible for the fatal Pickwick Club crash, it was declared today to the Boston Evening American, by still more of the "men in the street," picked out at random and asked for opinions.

Universally the interviewed persons assert that someone must have known that danger lurked in the Beach street terrain and that, knowing, protective steps should have been taken.

Some opinions follow:

Miss Mae Donnelly, Braemore road, Medford, elevator operator: — If anyone was criminally negligent in the Pickwick catastrophe they should be punished. It was the most frightful accident that I have ever heard of. Whoever is responsible for the agony that those victims must have gone through a severe punishment should be meted out to them quickly.

William Fitzgerald, Howard street, Mulden, elevator superintendent: — Someone is responsible for that Pickwick Club accident. There is satisfaction, however, in knowing that the district attorney is not lagging in his effort to fix the blame.

John Crosby, credit clerk, Congress street, Boston. It seems to me after all of the publicity that the Pickwick Club received prior to accident that someone was to blame for allowing it to remain open. Many of those trapped in that disaster were innocent victims of curiosity. Those who were responsible should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. I believe that District Attorney O'Brien is acting wisely in an effort to fix blame for the accident.

George Kimball, Main street, Medford: It seems to me that the fire in the Greenwich Club must have had a serious effect on the entire building. If there is any thing criminal about the disaster I feel certain that justice will be meted out.

Frank Lord, stock clerk, State street: It is not for me to state anything about a criminal matter, but there is no question that some one must have been responsible for that terrible accident.

Mrs. Rose Nadell of New York city, housewife and tourist: Such a toll of life will make city officials more

careful with their promiscuous O.K.'s of premises. This should be a lesson to building heads to sanction only iron cast structures.

George MacKenna, No. 36 Ward street, Roxbury, vocational training student: It is a pitiful thing to think about now in retrospect, but on general principles clubs of such a nature should be closed. For the welfare of the community at large, city officials should not issue licenses to such organizations, supposedly social. They are a menace to the public, and, as every nuisance, the city should rid itself of such pests.

Clinton McGillicuddy, No. 168 Ward street, Roxbury, chauffeur: Now that it is all over and hearts have been broken and tears have been shed, the city suddenly shows signs of interest and life. Why not an ounce of prevention in the start? Placing the blame on any one person now doesn't alter the matter. What should be done is outlining a course of action for the future to avoid such happenings.

Leo Schiuhan, No. 13 Wigglesworth street, Roxbury, artist: City officials in general are to blame. They are all tied up with each other and as a group, should pledge themselves to prevent a repetition of the Pickwick Club disaster. Nothing worse could be imagined in such a city as Boston, which stands for culture and refinement throughout the country and even across the water. Night clubs and those societies which act behind secret panels should be closed up.

Patrick Hughes, No. 16 Parker Hill avenue, Roxbury: Such a catastrophe and such a pity for the relatives and friends of the ruins. They are the ones who truly suffer. Those who are dead have finished with life, but those dear and near to them who remain to be ever reminded of the tragedy should be the ones taken care of. It is for the friends and relatives that the city officials should lose no time in preventing a recurrence of such a tragedy.

SAY MAYOR'S COUSIN TOOK GRAFT SALARY

TRAVELER JULY 10 1925

The Boston finance commission today sent a report to Mayor Curley and to Dist.-Atty. O'Brien recommending the discharge from the city employ of Michael F. Curley, a cousin of the mayor, for drawing a salary of \$1500 as a constable while being employed full time by a private corporation.

ASK MONEY REFUND

A further recommendation is that the city recover the pay which Curley has received while giving the city no service. The last visible city work which he did, according to the finance commission, was five years ago.

Mayor Curley replied to Chairman Sullivan of the finance commission that he will take action as soon as he receives a report from the street laying-out department, in which his cousin is employed.

Referring to two other cases in the street laying-out department, one of them already reported on, the finance commission suggests that a revision of the entire pay roll in this department should be made at once.

The commission finds that Michael F. Curley on Dec. 27, 1920, although an employee of the city, accepted a position with a department store as traffic manager at \$45.70 a week and has kept the job until the present time, with hours of employment from 9 A. M. to 5:30 P. M., or later if his work requires.

Examination made for returns of notices served by Curley for the street laying-out department brought none to light in the last four years, according to the finance commission. The last work which appeared to have been done by him was on Chelsea street, Charlestown, about five years ago.

He was appointed to the municipal job by Mayor Curley in 1914 at a salary of \$1200. During the present administration his salary has been increased three times.

The last increase of Curley's salary the commission finds, was ordered by a vote of the street commissioners only a few weeks ago. "These officials," the report reads, "must have known whether or not Curley was or had been rendering any service to the city of Boston. He has been collecting his salary illegally with the approval of the chairman of the board of street commissioners."

POST - JULY 10 1925

Cornerstone of New POST High School Laid



LAYING CORNERSTONE OF NEW EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL
Corporation Counsel E. Mark Sullivan, representing Mayor Curley, is shown at the right of the cornerstone which he helped to lay in place in the new educational building.

CAVE-IN DELAYS JURORS

POST

Expect Final Pick-
wick Club Data

This Morning

GUARDS OVER RUINS OF PICKWICK CLUB

Reports that attempts had been made or would be made to tamper with the evidence regarding the cause of the Pickwick Club disaster, being uncovered by laborers digging out the concrete pillars installed as underpinning for the east wall, caused the district attorney's office last night to assign two members of the staff as guards. They were ordered

POST - JULY 10 1925
to maintain continual vigilance all night, remaining constantly at the scene of the tragedy.

The Suffolk Grand Jury investigation of the Pickwick Club tragedy was unexpectedly delayed yesterday by the caving of a 20-foot bank of clay and sand, deeply burying the shattered concrete underpinnings whose failure to resist pressure of the same earth last week is believed by engineering experts to have caused the five-story brick building to collapse.

Laborers were digging around the underpinnings to expose their bases for examination by the experts. District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien requested that the lofty claybank be shored up, declaring that since its lateral pressure had forced over the side wall of the wrecked building, it was likely to continue to move and cause a cave-in.

Building Commissioner John Mahony thought this was unnecessary, he said. Almost in a state of collapse himself from lack of sleep and nerve strain, Commissioner Mahony expressed the opinion that the tough clay would act like a retaining wall and hence shoring was not needed.

Hours later, when the laborers had exposed the underpinnings almost completely, the great bank suddenly gave way. The excavations which had been made by hours of patient digging from Wednesday evening until about 7 o'clock yesterday morning were filled

again by the landslide and some of the pillars were buried deeply.

The remainder of the high bank was then properly shored up and the work started all over again. Early this morning it is expected that the bases of the broken pillars will again be exposed for inspection by all the experts.

Dramatic, Says O'Brien

"Rather a dramatic thing, that cave-in," commented the district attorney. "It seems to illustrate exactly what happened last Saturday morning when the lateral pressure released by the excavating outside the wall foundations caused the building to collapse."

Other cases were considered by the grand jury yesterday, while waiting to complete the Pickwick Club investigation. The jurors are to meet this morning at 9:30 in readiness to hear the testimony of the experts.

Several witnesses who are expected to go before the grand jury this morning before that body votes on indictments, were interviewed yesterday by Assistant District Attorneys Maurice Caro and George Alpert, and others by District Attorney O'Brien.

Mayor Curley yesterday arranged for the experts appointed by President Stratton of the M. I. T. at his request to report to the district attorney and co-operate with him and the grand jury.

Four experts have been retained by Building Commissioner Mahoney to study into the cause of the crash. They are Clarence H. Blackall, the architect; J. E. Worcester, an eminent Boston consulting engineer; Archibald G. Monks of the architectural firm of Monks & Johnson, and Edward D. Densmore, of Densmore, McClellan & Robbins, the architects and engineers who built the Park Square building and the Paine Furniture Co. building.

Experts retained by the district attorney's office are George Emerson, consulting engineer with the Finance Commission; Dr. Bion A. Bowman, John C. DeWolf and John R. Lotz.

Retained by the estate of Albert R. Rosenthal, owner of the collapsed building, are Professor George E. Swain of Harvard University and Mark Linenthal.

They are generally agreed, it was declared late yesterday at the district attorney's office, that failure of the foundations of the building's east wall resulted in the catastrophe, and that the contributing cause was the lateral pressure of the 16 feet or more of clay and sand pent up within the wall, this pressure being released in an outward direction by the deep excavation made for a garage to be built on the adjoining land.

The number of deaths caused by the disaster was increased to 44, when Max Mulmat, 32, one of the merrymakers that last night in the Pickwick Club, died at the City Hospital. His home was at 24 Homestead street, Roxbury.

AMERICAN - JULY 10 1925

EAST BOSTON SCHOOL CORNERSTONE LAID

The cornerstone of the new million dollar East Boston High School building, under construction on the old reservoir lot, at White and Brooks streets, East Boston was laid yesterday afternoon.

E. Mark Sullivan, corporation counsel, representing Mayor Curley, made an address and with the assistance of masons put the stone in position.

Russell B. Woodward, class of 1925, acted as trumpeter during the exercises.

JULY 10 1925

TELEGRAM - JULY-11-1925

WAS CURLEY UNTRUTHFUL?

Did Mayor James M. Curley deliberately lie when he denied the removal of Schoolhouse Commissioner James J. Mahar from the position Mahar had filled for years with great ability and efficiency? E1

The Telegram has already characterized the Curley denial as an intentional falsehood. Mr. Mahar today unqualifiedly confirms the characterization of Curley by The Telegram and offers proof that the mayor of Boston resorted to deceit when he sought to mislead the people about a controversy which has ripped the covering from one of the worst scandals in Boston's history.

Mr. Mahar has availed himself of an opportunity to denounce Curley as a liar. He has chosen to expose some of the details of the scheme to force him to do something so repugnant to an honest, conscientious man that every fibre of his manhood rebelled.

The conscience of Mr. Mahar is clean. It has always been clean. It will always be clean and because of its cleanliness, Mr. Mahar defies Curley.

He refused to resign and then he was told by Curley that he had been removed. JUL 11 1925

It is not strange that Curley regrets the display of temper which caused him to lose his head and discharge Mahar. It is not strange that the same Curley is now trying to placate Mahar by offering him inducements to again bask in the sunshine of Curley's graces. There is abundant reason for the change in the attitude of Curley.

He is not the same Curley today that he was July 2, when he raised his craterical voice and cut off Mahar's official head. It was only a verbal beheading, because the legal removal of Mahar has never been ordered.

Why?

The Telegram charges that Curley was afraid to legally remove Mahar and the honeyed words which Curley used to express his praise of Mahar were employed for a purpose.

The removal from office of James M. Curley and the discharge of the entire Board of Street Commissioners is Boston's most urgent need. There are others who should be driven from City Hall, but Curley and the Street Commissioners ought to be ordered to serve as drum majors of the parade.

Incidentally the Finance Commission has called the attention of the District Attorney of Suffolk county to certain evidence which is considered worthy of the official cognizance of the county prosecutor. There is opportunity for him to take immediate action.

TELEGRAM

continued next page

(1)

PEOPLE DEMAND PUBLICITY

The impending inquiry by the Finance Commission into the "removal" by Mayor Curley of Schoolhouse Commissioner James J. Mahar and its connection, if any, with schoolhouse contracts, is of such significance that there can be no tolerance of any private sessions.

111 11 1925

The Fin. Com. has undertaken to obtain evidence about the management of an important city department. Wild rumors are afloat about wrongdoing by city officials. In justice to all the truth should come out.

The investigation cannot be construed as a grand jury inquiry. The law explicitly provides for grand jury secrecy. There is no such provision in the law which established the Fin. Com.

The duty of the commission is plain. Its responsibility to the people of Boston cannot be unduly magnified. The commission is exclusively an investigating board. Such was the intent of the Legislature which created it.

Taxpayers of Boston are entitled to hear all evidence relating to the Curley-Mahar row. They are clearly entitled to all information about the award of contracts to architects and contractors to erect schoolhouses involving an expenditure of millions of dollars.

There is no one involved in the investigation who has the slightest claim for the protection which a secret inquiry would indicate had been granted.

Commissioner Mahar is an honest, sincere, zealous and straightforward man whose record as a city official will stand scrutiny.

Mahar is not seeking protection, nor is he in need of it. If there is anybody else who feels in need of the protection of a secret inquiry, the fact of itself, is sufficient to warrant the Fin. Com. to prosecute its inquiry publicly.

Commissioner Mahar has nothing to hide. He welcomes a public hearing. He can be depended upon to tell the truth.

The Telegram called the attention of the commission to the necessity of an inquiry. The commission acted. The Telegram now demands the commission make it a public investigation.

Governor Fuller has authority over the commission and if there is any disposition on the part of the commission to resort to a private inquiry The Telegram demands the intervention of the governor in order that the people of Boston shall be given the protection to which they are entitled.

They demand to know all of the facts.

Continued next page

7644-11-1925

(2)

E2

CURLEY UNDER FIRE

Michael F. Curley, whose regular job is traffic manager for a Boston department store, has drawn a fat city salary for nearly five years. So far as known, it continues to sweeten his income.

The Boston Finance Commission makes the charge, substantiated by city records, that Curley has been absent from his city job all this time.

Judge Sullivan, the chairman, says: "No visible evidence was found that Curley has been doing any work for the city for the last five years. He has, therefore, been collecting his salary illegally, with the approval of the chairman of the street commissioners."

Curley is a cousin of Mayor Curley. The street commissioners are named by the mayor and take orders from him.

If Curley was grafting on the city treasury, as Judge Sullivan and his colleagues charge, the blame rests upon the mayor.

It involves about \$7000, more or less. The case is one of eight reported to District-Attorney O'Brien by the commission within a short time, two of which were alleged payroll thievery of the sort described.

Compared to the grafting attributed to the so-called "City Hall gang" by rumor, gossip and whispers, it is only a gnat on the back of an elephant. For the common talk of "big graft" concerns school contracts amounting to millions, street widening projects for more millions, land takings and garage permits.

It is common talk that individuals have grown immensely rich without visible income.

The Telegram exposed the scandal as a public duty. It gave the public the first story of the "firing" of Schoolhouse Commissioner Mahar, because, it was said, he refused to be a cat's paw for big politicians and greedy office holders.

Mayor Curley's version of the break with Mahar has not convinced the public.

What does the mayor say to the charge that his cousin, appointed by the mayor, has shaken down the city for \$7000 or so without doing a stroke of work in return?

The mayor is under fire. No administration has received so much and given so little to the people in return.

And the people are asking, "Who gets it?"

TELEGRAM - JULY 11 - 1925

TELEGRAM DEMANDS REMOVAL OF MAYOR

JUL 11 1925 TELEGRAM

Mahar's Exposure of City Hall Contract Scandal Leaves No Other Course Open G1

The Telegram today demands the removal from office of Mayor James M. Curley and the board of street commissioners.

Exposure by Schoolhouse Commr. James J. Mahar and The Telegram of \$6,000,000 school contract plots and payroll graft leaves no other course open.

Mahar today in a signed statement exposes how the City hall gang tried to use him in "putting over" contract awards, declaring he was fired because he refused to be the mayor's "active chairman" rubber stamp that would make the contracts legal.

He denounces as a deliberate lie the repeated claim by Mayor Curley that Mahar was not verbally removed from an office he has filled honestly, honorably and efficiently for 23 years.

Every word in the Mahar statement, one of the most important ever made by a city official of Boston, confirms the original story published in The Telegram of the removal of Mahar and corroborates all the startling disclosures.

Mahar has drawn a word picture of the scene in the mayor's office before he was "fired." It is the story of a political drama expected to have a tragic ending for prominent city officials.

Mahar, surrounded in the mayor's office by the all-powerful James Michael Curley, his ally, Thomas P. Glynn, once chairman of the schoolhouse commission but at present under the ban of the civil service commission, the city auditor, Mr. Carven, and the assistant corporation counsel, and two members of the street commission, was told in words which permitted of no misinterpretation that he must sign contracts and other important documents as "acting chairman" of the schoolhouse commission.

Because to do so would violate his oath of office, Mahar courageously refused to obey the command of the City Hall boss.

His resignation was demanded. Again the courageous city official defied Curley. Knowing nothing which warranted him to resign, Mahar said so.

Then he was told that he was removed and that former

Continued
next page

JULY 11 - 1921

notice of his removal would be filed with the proper city officials as required by law.

Last Friday, less than 12 hours after the dramatic scene in the mayor's office, The Telegram told the story of Mahar's removal. Before the ink was dry upon the papers Mayor Curley distributed to the newspapermen a statement in which he unqualifiedly denied that he had removed Mahar. He coupled the denial with a flattering endorsement of Mahar's service.

Today Mahar denounces Curley, challenges the truthfulness of Curley's public statement, and gives an accurate resume of his troubles with Curley.

City Hall today seethed like a volcano. The Boston Finance Commission has started to probe Mahar's charges and a probe of the flood of rumors. Gigantic graft is claimed to have influenced the awarding of schoolhouse contracts. Judge Sullivan of the Fin. Com. is determined to sift these rumors to the bottom and get the truth.

The Telegram's fearless expose of the scandal is today confirmed in every detail by Mahar's signed statement, as follows:

Editor of The Boston Telegram:

There has been so much of public discussion concerning my official status as a member of the School House Commission and my relations with His Honor, the mayor, in that regard, that, because of a natural public interest in the situation, I think I should make brief statement of the facts in the premises as known to me.

On Thursday, July 2, I was notified by Mr. Thomas P. Glynn to meet His Honor the Mayor at the mayor's office, to there consider the question as to the signature of contracts, bills, drafts, payrolls and so forth, incident to the administration of the schoolhouse commission. The question had previously been raised by the law department as to the legality of Mr. Glynn's signature to such documents as chairman of the board. At the conference at the mayor's office, His Honor suggested that further conference was necessary and he so arranged for it to be held on the afternoon of July 2.

At this conference there were present: His Honor the Mayor, the assistant corporation counsel, the city auditor, the chairman of the schoolhouse commission and myself. While the conference was being held there were also present in the room the chairman of the board of street commissioners and another member of that board.

The execution of contracts or other documents in behalf of the schoolhouse commission was discussed at length and it was held

by all persons present and participating in the discussion, except myself, that I should sign such contracts as acting chairman of the board of schoolhouse commission. I held to the opinion, and so stated, that I did not deem I had any lawful authority to so act when Mr. Glynn, the regular chairman of the board, was present. I believed, and so stated, that were I to so act in Mr. Glynn's presence, my action would be illegal and that I should be subject to the charge of having violated the requirements of my oath of office, and to have so acted illegally. I therefore firmly refused to act as so suggested.

His Honor the Mayor then stated that the only way out of the difficulty would be for me to resign my position as schoolhouse commissioner, which resignation he said he would immediately accept when presented. I replied that I knew of no reason for any such action on my part, since I had done nothing inconsistent with, or in violation of,

my official duties or service; that I had held my position in the schoolhouse department for nearly 23 years and that I could not recede from the position that I had taken, or resign, so indicating or implying any lack of fidelity in the performance of my duties.

In answer to my statement in this regard, His Honor then declared, "Then I remove you. I remove you now." He further stated that I would receive my written notification of such removal that night.

I have never since that time received from His Honor the Mayor, or from any other source, any written notice respecting such removal.

JAMES J. MAHAR.

**Millions Held Up
In School Contracts**

Since Mahar quit his job it has stopped the functioning of the schoolhouse commission. The law department holds that inasmuch as the present chairman, Thomas P. Glynn, was refused reappointment by the Civil Service Commission, the legality of his signature on schoolhouse contracts is questionable.

It has declined to approve contracts bearing his signature since his term officially expired June 1. The signature of the other two commissioners are held to be necessary.

Millions of dollars of contracts for new school construction for additions to schools, repairs and alterations have been held up. There are stacks of them in the offices of the law department and more stacks of them on the desks of the contract clerk in the offices of the schoolhouse commission, all awaiting action.

Schoolhouse programs for this year contemplates some \$4,500,000 of new construction, \$1,500,000 of repairs and alterations, and a laying out for the future of some \$7,000,000 of new school buildings.

**Curley Denies
He Fired Mahar**

"Commissioner Mahar's statement does not alter the status of the case," said Mayor Curley. "He has not been removed, as he admits he has received no official notice of his removal and no notice of removal has been filed with the city clerk as required by law."

"His statement does not indicate any intention on his part to resign, and I have received no letter of resignation from him. Commissioner Mahar is simply laboring under a misapprehension."

"There is no desire or intention on my part to remove him. If he is desirous of tendering his resignation, of course he is at liberty to do so, but I hope he will not, as his work has been eminently satisfactory."

"Until I, as Mayor, receive a similar communication from Mr. Mahar, as that sent to the press, there is nothing more that I can say or do in the situation."

GLOBE - JULY 11-1925

NEW EVIDENCE FOUND ON CLUB DISASTER

GLOBE

JULY 11 1925

Claim Business Men on Beach St Saw Building Sway And Sag Last Week

Officials from the district attorney's office, it was learned by the Globe today, are checking new clews which may have an important bearing on the investigation of the collapse of the Pickwick Club, 6 Beach st, early last Saturday morning.

While various investigators were analyzing every bit of evidence obtainable from the wreckage, eye witnesses of the disaster and others, business men on Beach st were discussing the condition of the club as they saw it last week.

According to the reports the attention of the office force of the Parke-Davis Sales Corporation of 31 Beach st was attracted to the Pickwick Club, last week, when a number of heavy timbers were being swung aloft to replace the section of the roof which had been destroyed by fire in April.

As the business folk were watching the spectacle, it is said, they saw the Pickwick Building sway perceptibly and sag under the extra weight. Nothing could be obtained from these people today for an interview because the district attorney's office had instructed them to say nothing, saying all details would be given out through that office.

Following the conference of members

of the district attorney's staff and these business men, it is expected that the latter may be summoned before the Grand Jury to testify about the alleged weakness of the structure.

Harry M. Haven of Haven & Hopkins, architects of the garage to be erected on land adjoining the Pickwick Club, was the first witness this afternoon. Others to follow were Chief Inspector Roma of the Building Department, Thomas Elson and John J. Goff, the latter employed by the Fritz Construction Company, which had charge of renovating the building after the fire.

Goff, in discussing the Pickwick affair, said that on the Monday before the building fell, he noticed places where the beams were sagging and that the center wall was cracked from ceiling to floor.

Mr Goff said that he called the attention of Mr Fritz to the matter several times, but that Mr Fritz told him that everything was all right and to go back to work.

On July 1, Goff declares, he went to Mr Fritz and asked the latter to pay him off, that the building was going to fall and that he told Fritz that he Fritz, knew it. Fritz, he said, told him to forget it to get back to work.

AMERICAN - JULY 11-1925

GRAND JURY TO PROBE CURLEY'S 'COUSIN' JOB

Two city officials, Rupert S. Carven, city auditor, and Thomas F. Hurley, chairman of the board of street commissioners, have been summoned before the grand jury Monday morning to tell what they know about the employment of Michael F. Curley, who claims to be a cousin of Mayor Curley as a constable.

AMERICAN

The summonses were ordered by District Attorney O'Brien, following a report sent him by the Finance Commission. The commission alleges Curley has been receiving

\$1,500 a year as a city constable while also employed in a downtown department store.

It is also believed information will be sought as to employment of Mrs. Mary E. Reid as a park department matron while receiving a \$600-a-year annuity as the result of her husband's death.

ALL PICKWICK CLUB VICTIMS ARE COMFORTABLE

Victims of the Pickwick Club disaster who are confined at the City Hospital were said by the hospital authorities to be resting very comfortably this morning.

Rita Carlson, though still on the danger list, is said to be greatly improved, and it is hoped that her name may be taken from the danger list within a few days.

Those suffering from minor injuries will probably be discharged Monday.

TRAVELER - JULY 11-1925

MAHAR'S RATING STILL IN DOUBT

JULY 11 1925

Commissioner Considers
Himself Discharged—

Curley Says No
TRAVELER

The status of the controversy in Boston's schoolhouse department remained unchanged today after a long conference in the mayor's office, at which were present all the officials involved except the principal. Commissioner James J. Mahar, who has declared that he considered himself fired while Mayor Curley insisted he had not removed him.

Mayor Curley announced after the conference that Clarence H. Blackhall, the architect, and third member of the schoolhouse commission, was signing the contracts and that the business of the department was proceeding normally. He further denied rumors that Chairman Thomas P. Glynn was to resign, saying he saw no reason for such action, since the board was functioning perfectly well, except that the municipal law department had questioned the legality of Glynn's signature on official documents because he had failed of confirmation by the civil service commission.

Commissioner Mahar, at his home at 68 L street, South Boston, refused to disclose what he intended to do. The only statement that he would make was: "I have absolutely nothing to say."

He declined to indicate whether he would resume his duties in view of the mayor's statement last night that he had not discharged him and hoped he would not resign.

The mayor, for his part, stood pat on his statement of last night. He said that he thought the next move was up to Commissioner Mahar.

A report which was expected from the finance commission was not forthcoming.

WILL AGREE TO AID CITY

At the suggestion of John F. Hickey, chairman of the Board of Examiners of the Building Department of Boston, representatives of 14 building wrecking companies met last night in City Hall and formed an association which will consider standardization of methods of building wrecking, having in mind protection of the public and workmen from accidents. A temporary organization was formed and officers elected. At a meeting Tuesday a permanent organization will be formed.

At the meeting Tuesday plans will be made for gathering opinions of all men engaged in this business who, by joining the association, will agree to do all in their power to assist the city in any emergency and who, by being organized, will be able to handle any crisis that may arise.

John J. Barry of the Barry Building Wrecking Company is temporary chairman of the organization, and William Duchemin of the Duchemin Wrecking Company, Inc., is treasurer.

GLOBE - JULY 11-1925

TELEGRAM - JULY 11-1925

TESTIMONY ENDS IN CLUB TRAGEDY

Jury Is Again in Session
Until Late at Night

Worker Warned Boss Building

Would Fall, He Declares

JULY 11 1925

Deliberations of Probers to
Be Resumed Today

GLOBE

With testimony of 85 witnesses before it for consideration, the Suffolk County Grand Jury considering the facts of the collapse of the Pickwick Club at 6 Beach st Saturday morning was in session until 11:15 o'clock last night. Two hours previously, the jury had heard the last witness and had gone into session for consideration of the case. It adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock this morning.

The session of the Grand Jury is a record one in this county and, as far as is known, in the State. In all, the jury had considered the Pickwick Club case nearly 40 hours. It had heard witnesses whose testimony had a bearing on the matter on four out of the last five days it was in session.

The case was taken up by the jury at 2:30 yesterday afternoon and between that hour and the time when the last witnesses were heard, shortly before 9 o'clock, 14 witnesses had been heard. Included in this list were persons who had investigated at the scene of the disaster for interests other than those of the Government. They were admitted to the jury room and told their stories by an arrangement with Dist Atty O'Brien, who stated that he wished the widest investigation into the affair and would not deny a single person who thought he had something important to testify to an opportunity to tell his story.

Declares Wall Was Cracked

The jury took up the case yesterday with the calling as the first witness of Harry M. Haven, member of a firm of architects which was in charge of plans for the building to be erected next door to the one that collapsed. He was followed by engineer Kendal, in the employ of the same firm.

Then came John J. Goff, a workman employed by Nathan Fritz, a carpenter who had the contract for repairing the roof of the Pickwick Club where it had been damaged by fire. Goff, before he entered the Grand Jury room, stated to newspapermen that before the building fell, he noticed places where beams were sagging and that the center wall was cracked from ceiling to floor. Goff stated that he called the attention of Mr Fritz to this condition, but that Fritz told him that everything was all right and to go back to work.

On July 1, Goff stated, he went to Fritz and asked the latter to pay him off, that the building was going to fall and that he, Fritz, knew it. He says Fritz told him to forget it and go back to work.

Carpenter Denies Story

Mr Fritz, who was also at the Grand Jury room, denied that Goff had made these statements to him. He stated that Goff complained about the condition of the roof and had claimed it was dangerous to work upon. Fritz said he showed him, by example, that it was safe to work on the roof. Fritz was called as one of the witnesses during the evening session of the jurors.

Another witness before the Grand Jury took a recess for supper was Thomas A. Elston, the contractor whose men removed the debris after the collapse. Prof George F. Swahn, who was retained as an expert by the Rosenthal estate, was also a witness, and he was followed by Frank B. Callahan, a police officer of the LaGrange-st Station and the first officer at the scene after the accident. Callahan is suffering from a broken finger suffered when a beam fell on him while he was doing rescue work.

The first witness when the jurors resumed their deliberations after supper was Prof Edward F. Miller, one of the experts retained by Mayor Curley. He was followed by Philip Cournoyer, who was employed on the building by Fritz, but who had not been at work for two days before the collapse.

Jury Calls for O'Brien

Guy Emerson, one of Dist Atty O'Brien's engineers, followed, and John B. Lotz, John O. De Wolf and Bion A. Bowman, the three other expert engineers, also testified. Nathan Ginsburg, a coadministrator of the Rosenthal estate, and William J. Curran, a student in the Disabled Veterans' Bureau, were the final witnesses.

About 10 o'clock last night, when the jurors had been deliberating about an hour, they sent for Dist Atty O'Brien and his two assistants, Maurice Caro and George Alpert. The three prosecutors remained in the room from then until the Grand Jury adjourned for the night.

Before the Grand Jury started its evening session, word was sent to the Salvation Army Corps, which was holding an open-air meeting at the foot of Pemberton sq. that the sound of the band interfered with consideration of the jurors. The Salvation Army immediately discontinued its meeting and departed.

FIN. COM. FINDS ANOTHER CASE OF ILLEGAL PAY

Following up its expose of Michael F. Curley, cousin of Mayor James M. Curley, drawing pay from the city while employed by a department store, the Finance Commission delivered another broadside against the city administration charging that a woman while drawing a pension was also on the city payroll in another capacity.

For more than a year, the money drawn by this woman as salary was paid to her illegally, the Finance Commission declares, sending their report to Dist. Atty. Thomas C. O'Brien.

Mrs. Mary Reid of 1577 Columbus ave., widow of William J. Reid, foreman in the fire department alarm service who was electrocuted while on duty became eligible for a pension on January 17, 1921, according to the report, a copy of which was sent to the mayor.

Since Dec. 30, 1920, Mrs. Reid has been employed by the Park department as a matron, drawing salary for that work.

Since the date when she became entitled to her pension, January 17, 1921, the report points out, the city has been paying her illegally.

GLOBE - JULY 11-1925

GRAND JURY SUMMONS IN CURLEY JOB CASE

JULY 11 1925

Will Hear Hurley and Carven in Regard to Mayor's Cousin's Name on City Payroll

Chairman Thomas J. Hurley of the Street Commission and City Auditor Rupert S. Carven have been summoned by Dist Atty O'Brien to appear before the Grand Jury Monday morning, in relation to the Finance Commission's complaint of yesterday, about the presence on the Street Commission payroll of the name of Constable Michael

F. Curley, the Mayor's cousin.

Chairman Hurley is head of the department in which Constable Curley has served at \$1500 salary. The complaint of the Finance Commission was that Constable Curley had not served a warrant for a long time, and that he has for four years been drawing a salary as traffic manager for a downtown department store while on the city payroll.

HERALD - JULY 11 - 1925

CHARGES 2 GET PAY ILLEGALLY

Fin. Com. Names Cousin
of Mayor as Drawing
\$1500 from City

HERALD H
ALLEGES MATRON

ALSO GETS PENSION

JULY 11 1925

Two more city employes, one of them a cousin of Mayor Curley, are charged by the Boston finance commission with receiving pay illegally, in separate reports sent to the mayor yesterday. Dist. Atty. O'Brien was also sent a copy of the report on the mayor's cousin, Michael F. Curley, who, it is said, draws \$1500 a year, although the last visible city work he did five years ago and although he has a full-time job with a private corporation.

The other case is that of Mrs. Mary E. Reid of 1577 Columbus avenue, who, according to the finance commission, has been receiving a \$600 annuity on account of the death of her husband, a fireman, and at the same time has been receiving pay as a matron in the park department. Such double compensation, the finance commission points out, is illegal.

UNDER TWO NAMES

City Auditor Carven, who was principally blamed by the commission for the payments, declared last night that the woman had been on the payroll under two different names and that as soon as the finance commission called his attention to the circumstance on July 1, he took action which resulted in the woman's discharge by the park department on July 3—a week prior to the report.

The discharge of Michael F. Curley was recommended by the commission.

A further recommendation is that the city recover the pay which Curley has received while giving the city no service. The last visible city work which he did, according to the finance commission, was five years ago.

Mayor Curley replied to Chairman Sullivan of the finance commission that he will take action as soon as he receives a report from the street laying-out department, in which his cousin is employed.

Referring to two other cases in the street laying-out department, one of them already reported on, the finance commission suggests that a revision of the entire pay roll in this department should be made at once.

DECLARE CURLEY TOOK AN OUTSIDE POSITION

The commission finds that Michael F. Curley on Dec. 27, 1920, although an employe of the city, accepted a position with a department store as traffic manager at \$43.70 a week and has kept the job until the present time, with hours of employment from 9 A. M. to 5:30 P. M., or later if his work requires.

Examination made for returns of notices served by Curley for the street laying-out department brought none to light in the last four years, according to the finance commission. The last work which appeared to have been done by him was on Chelsea street, Charlestown, about five years ago.

He was appointed to the municipal job by Mayor Curley in 1914 at a salary of \$1200. During the present administration his salary has been increased three times.

APPOINTED MATRON

Mrs. Reid's case is one of those encountered by the commission in its survey, begun in May, of payments to persons who were receiving annuities or pensions from the fire department.

As a widow with two small children, Mrs. Reid was appointed a matron under the Peters administration on Dec. 24, 1920, at \$2.66 2-3 a day for two days a week and \$16 for a full week in the summer. Her husband, William R. Reid, who was an assistant foreman in the alarm branch of the fire department, was appointed to the force in 1907 and was killed in line of duty on Dec. 7, 1920.

On the park department rolls, Mrs. Reid's name was entered as Minnie. On Jan. 17, 1921, her \$600 annuity was approved, under the name of Mary E. Cap. 32, sec. 91 of the general statutes, according to the finance commission, prohibits the city from paying Mrs. Reid for her services since Jan. 17, 1921, and since that date all money paid her by the city was done so illegally.

So far as the auditor was concerned, the commission noted that his chief duty was to determine that every payment made by the city is legal. The report concluded:

"When Mrs. Reid chose to become a pensioner of the city it should have been known to the auditor and payment to her on account of her employment by the park department stopped. This neglect by the auditor's office, originating under the previous incumbent and continued by the present auditor, has cost the city a substantial sum, which should be recovered from the auditors who permitted this illegal payment. It is for this purpose that they are required to give a bond to the city."

MAYOR REPLIES

In a letter sent yesterday to the chairman of the finance commission in reply to the recent communication of that body, Mayor Curley called the case of Chairman Michael H. Sullivan in drawing two salaries from the city treasury equivalent to that of Mrs. Reid, which appeared to be a technical violation of the law, and recommended that the chairman resign one of his positions.

Mrs. Reid, widow of William R. Reid, who was killed by a high voltage wire while in the performance of his duties as an employe of the city, was given a position in the park department, part time at first and later whole time. She was let with two children to support and acquired her permanent position through efficient work, according to the mayor's letter.

The mayor also called the position of Charles L. Carr, a member of the commission, unethical, for he also serves as a member of the Massachusetts General Court.

In closing his letter the mayor wrote: "The name of this widow, in conformity with law, will be stricken from the roll of employees, but it will be interesting to watch the procedure of the chairman of the commission who still draws two salaries, and also the position that may be taken by Charles L. Carr."

The mayor made no allusion in the letter to the charges against Mr. F. Curley, his cousin.

NEWEST DANCE TO BE BARRED

TRAVELER
"The Charleston" Target
of Complaints by Hub
Hall Owners

JULY 10 1925

"The Charleston," the new dance that has been the butt of general talk since the Pickwick Club disaster, is due to be prohibited in Boston dance halls.

Acting on complaints from orchestra leaders and owners of dance halls throughout the City, John M. Casey, chief of the licensing division of the city, requested a conference with Mayor Curley today to take steps to ban the dance in Boston.

Mayor Curley, Building Commissioner John Mahoney and Censor Casey met this afternoon to formulate plans toward barring the "Charleston."

One of the first dance hall owners in the city to ban the dance was Charles Winchester, the licensee of the Strand Hall, Huntington avenue. Winchester called the attention of Censor Casey to the wishes of the dance hall owners to have the dance barred and requested him to place the matter before Mayor Curley.

POST - JULY 11 - 1925

DECLARES CITY WORK WELL DONE

Mayor's Cousin Denies Drawing Pay for Nothing

JUL 11 1925 POST ✓

Michael F. Curley last night vigorously denied charges filed against him by the Finance Commission to the effect that there was no visible evidence in the Street Laying-Out Department that he had done any work for the city for the past five years, although he has collected his salary of \$1500 per year during that time.

HELD TWO JOBS

Mr. Curley at his home, 6 Cleaves street, Roxbury, said that he has been working right along for the city serving notices and that he has earned his salary. He admitted that he has been employed as a traffic manager for a department store, working there daily from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., but he has been doing constable's work in the evening, he says.

"The Finance Commission has been most unfair in its report," said Mr. Curley last night. "And it is nothing more than another chance for the commission to take a whack at the Mayor."

"Why, the very first question asked of me when I was called before the Finance Commission last Tuesday, was whether I was related to Mayor Curley, I replied that I was related only distantly. But they kept harping on the relationship, until I finally told them that I was either a third or fourth cousin of the Mayor."

"There is nothing in the order of my appointment which calls for regular hours, only that I shall do the work faithfully and completely. I contend that I have done so, and if the Finance Commission had been fair with me, there wouldn't have been any such false report sent out."

Will Grant Hearing

Mr. Curley said that he was notified early last evening by the street commissioners that they would grant him a hearing next week.

In its report, which the Finance Commission not only sent to the Mayor yesterday, but also a copy to the district attorney, the commission says in part: "Upon investigation the commission finds that on Dec. 27, 1920, Michael F. Curley, although an employee of the city, accepted a position with a department store as traffic manager, at a salary of \$48.70 per week, and has continued his service in that position to the present time. His hours of employment in the store are from 9 to 5:30, or later if his work requires him."

"Mr. Curley testified that he is a cousin of your Honor and was appointed to the street laying-out department by your Honor in 1914, at a salary of \$1200. During your Honor's present administration his salary has been increased three times."

"The commission had a reexamination made for returns of the notices served by Mr. Curley for the street laying-out department and could find none in the last four years. The last work which appeared to have been done by Mr. Curley was on Chelsea street, Charlestown, about five years ago. In other words, no visible evidence was found in the street laying-out department that Mr. Curley has been doing any work for the city for the last five years. He has, therefore, been collecting his salary illegally for that period, with the approval of the chairman of the board of street commissioners."

Investigate Annuity

The widow of a fireman (William R. Reid), who was a foreman in the fire-alarm service, and was electrocuted in the course of his duties and died Dec. 7, a woman with two small children, was the target of another investigation by the Finance Commission and the subject of a report sent to the Mayor late yesterday afternoon.

In May, 1925, the Finance Commission started checking up payments to persons receiving annuities or pensions for the Boston fire department. It discovered that Mrs. Mary Reid of 1577 Columbus avenue was receiving an annuity of \$600 from the fire department since Jan. 17, 1924. In addition Mrs. Reid has been employed in the park department since Dec. 30, 1920, as a matron.

The report points out that under the statute the city of Boston is prohibited from paying Mrs. Reid for her services since Jan. 17, 1921, when she became entitled to her pension.

"Since that date," states the report, "all money paid to her by the city for services was illegally paid."

In replying to the report of the Finance Commission pointing out that Mrs. Reid was drawing a pension from the fire department and a salary of \$20 a week from the park department, Mayor Curley vigorously attacks Judge Michael H. Sullivan, the chair-

man of the Finance Commission, for himself drawing two salaries from the city. As chairman of the Finance Commission, "who," says the Mayor, "is supposed to devote his entire time to the duties of the office of chairman," Judge Sullivan receives an alary "for this labor of \$5000 per annum and in addition, finds time to draw a second salary as associate justice of the Dorchester court."

He also attacks the "unethical" position of Charles L. Carr, a member of the Finance Commission serving in the capacity of a juror, as a member of the General Court serving in the capacity of judge of the reports submitted by the jury upon which he sits and calls upon Carr and Judge Sullivan to resign from one of their dual positions.

He designates the position of Judge Sullivan as in a sense equivalent that of the case of the widow (Mr. Reid). "In other words," says the Mayor, "he is a pensioner of the Republican party and kept on the pension roll as chairman of the Finance Commission at \$5000 a year because the character of service rendered him."

The Mayor in his letter to Judge Sullivan states that in conformity with law, the Park Commission has been directed to strike from the rolls of employees of the park department Mary E. Reid.

GLYNN WILL NOT QUIT, CURLEY DECLARES

Mayor Curley today put at rest the rumor that Chairman Thomas P. Glynn of the schoolhouse commission was about to resign, saying he saw no reason for such action because the board was functioning in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

The one exception to this is the fact that the law department has questioned the legality of Glynn's signature to official documents because of his failure of confirmation by the Civil Service Commission.

The mayor announced, following a conference in his office today at which were present everyone connected with the so-called existing controversy in the schoolhouse department, except the principal character, James J. Maher, that Schoolhouse Commissioner Clarence H. Blackall was signing contracts until Mr. Maher returned to his desk, and that the business of the department was proceeding normally.

The mayor also stood pat on his statement of last night. He said that he thought that the next move in the controversy was up to Commissioner Maher.

JUL 11 1925

GLOBE - JU4Y-11-1925

FIRED BY MAYOR, ASSERTS MAHAR

Written Notice Not Yet
Received, He Says

Schoolhouse Commission Man
Writes of Controversy

GLOBE
Curley Declares Official
Has Not Been Removed

JUL 1 1925

Schoolhouse Commissioner James J. Mahar, whose disappearance from City Hall July 2 gave rise to many rumors, sent to the Globe last evening a letter containing his side of an alleged controversy with Mayor Curley. On the date of his disappearance, according to a Globe story, Mr. Mahar, "after a confidential chat with Mayor Curley, went to his office, slammed down his roll-top, and hasn't been seen around City Hall or the Annex since."

On July 3, the Mayor was questioned on rumors that Mr. Maher had been removed. His Honor issued a formal denial. In the letter sent to the Globe last night, Mr. Maher claims that Mayor Curley, on July 2, asked his resignation, and, when he refused, declared, "Then, I remove you. I remove you now."

"He (the Mayor) further stated that I would receive my written notification of such removal that night," continued the letter. "I have never since that time received from His Honor the Mayor, or from any other source, any written notice respecting such removal."

Refused to Sign Papers

The letter begins by stating that there has been much public discussion of Mr. Maher's official status and his relations with the Mayor, and that public interest demand a brief statement from him. It goes on to say, in part:

"On Thursday, July 2, I was notified by Mr. Thomas P. Glynn to meet His Honor the Mayor at the Mayor's office, to there consider the question as to the signature of contracts, bills, drafts, payrolls, and so forth, incident to the administration of the School House Commission. The question had previously been raised by the Law Department as to the legality of Mr. Glynn's signature to such documents as chairman of the Board. At the conference at the Mayor's, His Honor suggested that further conference was necessary and he so arranged for it to be held on the afternoon of July 2.

"At this conference there were present, His Honor, the Mayor, the Assistant Corporation Counsel, the City Auditor, the Chairman of the School House Commission and myself.

"The execution of contracts or other documents in behalf of the School House Commission was discussed at length, and it was held by all persons present and participating in the discussion, except myself, that I should sign such contracts as Acting Chairman of the Board of School House Commission. I held, to the opinion, and so stated, that I did not deem I had any lawful authority to so act when Mr. Glynn, the regular chairman of the Board was present.

"His Honor, the Mayor, then stated that the only way out of the difficulty would be for me to resign my position as schoolhouse commissioner. I replied that I knew of no reason for any such action on my part, since I had done nothing inconsistent with, or in violation of, my official duties or service; that I had held my position in the Schoolhouse Department for nearly 23 years and that I could not recede from the position that I had taken, or resign, so indicating or implying any lack of fidelity in the performance of my duties.

"In answer to my statement in this regard, His Honor then declared, "Then I remove you. I remove you now." He further stated that I would receive my written notification of such removal that night.

"I have never since that time received from His Honor the Mayor, or from any other source, any written notice respecting such removal."

No Controversy, Says Mayor

At midnight last night, Mayor Curley issued a statement denying that there was any controversy between him and Mr. Maher.

"Mr. Maher's statement," he said, "does not alter his status. It shows that he has not been removed. To remove him, it would be necessary for the Mayor to file a writ of notice.

"Mr. Maher must be laboring under a misapprehension. I have no intention of removing him and no desire to do so. If he wishes to tender his resignation, of course he is at liberty to do so, but I sincerely hope he will not. His services have been eminently satisfactory."

CALL OFFICIALS IN PAY PROBE

Expect Curley Matter to Be
Aired Before Grand

Jury
TRAVELER

Summons issued today to City Auditor Carven and Chairman Thomas J. Hurley of the street commissioners were interpreted today in City Hall as having to do with the charges of the finance commission that two city employees were illegally drawing pay.

So Mayor Curley construed them when asked later why the officials were ordered to appear before the grand jury next Monday. Carven was given the principal blame by the commission for the state of affairs it unearthed.

Michael F. Curley, a cousin of the mayor, who was alleged to have drawn \$1500 a year, without having done any work for the city for the past five years, was listed as an employee of the street laying-out department. He received a salary as a constable, though the last return on any notice he had served was on the Chelsea street job in Charlestown in 1921.

Mrs. Mary E. Reid, widow of a fireman, was the other employee at which the commission directed its fire. She has been receiving an annuity of \$600 per year from the city because her husband was killed in the discharge of his duty. It is also claimed she was a matron in the park department and received a salary from the city.

She was discharged when the attention of the park department was called to her double emolument from the city.

Curley is said to be employed as traffic manager for a downtown store at \$47.50 a week. His work requires his presence from 9 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. each day.

TRAVELER - AUG 11-1925

CLAN ENTERS CITY CAMPAIGN

TRAVELER
Curley Will Support Only
a Man Opposed to
Hooded Order
AUG 11 1925

Indication that the Ku Klux Klan issue will be a big factor in the coming Boston mayoralty battle appears in a statement which Mayor Curley made today on learning that the Klan proposed a parade and demonstration here in 1926 such as they are now conducting in Washington. The mayor's support of a candidate will have to be reckoned with in large measure, and the mayor today said that he will support only a man who holds the same views as he holds of "this insidious, iniquitous and rotten un-American organization."

If his candidate is elected, the mayor declared, he has every reason to believe that the policy of barring the Klan from public meetings in Boston, which he has maintained for three years, will continue in operation. "The statement that the Klan proposes a parade and demonstration in Boston during 1926," he asserted, "is undoubtedly predicated on the assumption that, due to possible division in Democratic ranks, owing to the multiplicity of candidates, that some individual of Ku Klux tendencies may be elected to serve as mayor.

"In contrast with other Massachusetts cities and towns—in fact, in contrast with nearly every other city and town in America, so far as Klan activities are concerned, Boston holds a most enviable position. The cosmopolitan citizenship of our community, living and working in an American atmosphere of co-operation, are meeting and solving problems as presented along thoroughly American lines of thought and in conformity with the ideals of the fathers and founders of our government, namely, with a due regard to the right of every citizen to the exercise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, without regard to race, creed or color."

New Hub Job for Pickwick Hero Made by Mayor

AMERICAN
THE city of Boston now
has a building wrecker
of its own in the person of
John J. Sullivan, hero of the
Pickwick Club disaster.

Mayor Curley appointed Sullivan to this berth as a result of the knowledge displayed by the new appointee during the Beach street havoc when he directed a big rescue party in removing debris the victims.

AUG 9 1925

HER40 - JULY 11 - 1925 F2

GRAND JURY TO PRESENT BILLS IN COURT TODAY

Counsel for Defendants
Will Be Notified to
Be Present

HERALD F1
**WORKMAN SAYS HE
SAW ROOF BULGE**

Goff Tells of Warning
Foreman and Being Told
to Go on with Job

JULY 11 1925
The Suffolk county grand jury is understood to have returned about a dozen indictments in its investigation to determine criminal responsibility for the collapse of the Pickwick Club before it adjourned at 11:15 o'clock last night. The jury will reconvene at 11 A. M. today, at which time it will present the indictments to a special sitting of the Suffolk criminal court.

After taking the testimony of 86 witnesses the grand jury completed the hearing of evidence at 9 o'clock and then deliberated for slightly more than two hours before retiring.

CALLS INDICTMENT CLERK

As soon as the jury had completed its deliberations it became evident that indictments had been returned. When he emerged from the grand jury room Dist.-Atty. O'Brien sent for his indictment clerk, Miss Gertrude E. Maloney, and she started work immediately.

It is expected that counsel for all those indicted will be asked to appear in court this morning with their clients, when the grand jury makes its formal presentation.

The investigation into the crash was one of the most searching ever undertaken by a Suffolk grand jury. Taking of evidence started Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock, and since that time the grand jury has been in session almost continually.

The investigation was conducted primarily to determine whether one Scales, one of the victims in the crash, met death by manslaughter, and proceeded on the lines of determining whether anybody was guilty of that crime or of any crime of lesser degrees. The grand jury took into consideration the part that every contractor, architect, or any other person, played in the reconstruction of the Pickwick Club building, or the excavation of the adjoining property, which might be construed as contributing in anyway to the collapse.

After the grand jury had completed the taking of evidence last evening, Dist.-Atty. O'Brien and his two assistants, Maurice Caro and George Alpert, went into conference. The grand jury remained in their room. At 10 P. M., the district attorney and his assistants went into the grand jury room and later sent for a brief on some law that had been prepared, and which was believed to be applicable to the case.

STORY OF J. J. GOFF, BUILDING WRECKER

While he was waiting to be called as a witness, John J. Goff, a building wrecker employed by the Fritz Construction Company, Inc., told newspaper men yesterday afternoon that he had been employed to renovate the roof of the Pickwick Club after the fire some days before the July 4 disaster.

On the Monday before the crash Goff said he noticed several places where the building bulged, saw beams sagging and observed that the centre wall on the top story was cracked from floor to ceiling.

"Everything up there was out of plumb," said Goff. He said he called the attention of Nathan Fritz to these matters several times but that Fritz said everything was all right and for him to go on with the work.

On July 1, Goff said, he asked Fritz to pay him off. He told the newspaper men he said to Fritz: "This building is going to fall and you know it. I want to get out." To this he said Fritz replied: "You're full of coke. Forget it and go back to work." Goff said he replied, "All right, if it goes down, I won't go down alone."

In consequence of Goff's story to the newspaper men, which was overheard by Albert Hurwitz and Albert A. Ginsberg, counsel for the estate of Albert

R. Rosenthal, owners of the Pickwick Club property, Nathan Frink, head of the Frink Construction Company, Inc., was sent for.

DENIAL BY FRINK

Before he went to the grand jury, Frink told reporters and attorneys that he never made the statements attributed to him by Goff. He said that on the Friday before the collapse he discharged Goff.

Another to go before the grand jury late yesterday was Prof. George F. Swain of the Lawrence Scientific school at Harvard, who with Mark Lenenthal was engaged by the Rosenthal estate to examine the property in behalf of the estate. It was not necessary for Mr. Lenenthal to go before the grand jury.

During the latter part of the day Nathan Ginsberg, a co-administrator with Mrs. Fannie Rosenthal of the estate was called into the grand jury room, as were Guy Emerson and John O. DeWolf, engineers for Dist. Atty. O'Brien. Still others who were called in were Prof. Miller and Maj. Smith of Technology, who were employed by Mayor Curley to conduct investigations into the crash.

FORD CONSIDERS VICTORY PLANT

For Use in Scrapping 200
Ships He Wishes to Buy

GLOW
Replies to the Chamber of
Commerce Proposition
on AUG 7 1925
Mayor Curley Promises
Cooperation by City

Manager Frank S. Davis of the Maritime Association of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, who on Wednesday sent a telegram to Henry Ford suggesting the use of Victory Plant in Dorchester Bay for scrapping or otherwise disposing of the 200 vessels reported as having been purchased from the Shipping Board by Mr. Ford, was advised yesterday by Mr. Ford that he will be pleased to consider the proposition.

The message from Mr. Ford to Manager Davis read as follows: "Will be pleased to consider offer mentioned in event ships are allocated to us."

While the members of the Shipping Board have voted favorably on Mr. Ford's bid to take over the idle fleet of Government ships, the deal has not been finally closed.

Mayor Curley in a telegram sent to Mr. Ford yesterday supplemented the suggestion made by the Maritime Association. The Mayor stated in his telegram that the Victory plant, owned by the United States, cost \$13,000,000 and occupies 450 acres, while the buildings occupy 65 acres, have track connection with the New Haven Railroad and that the whole property could probably be bought now for \$500,000.

Hearty cooperation by the city in case he acquires that property is promised by the Mayor.

240 BE - JULY 11-1925

WOMAN GOT PENSION AND CITY WAGES, TOO

"Fin Com" Discovers Dual
Role of Mrs Reid

JULY 11 1925.
Park Dept Matron Had \$600 a
Year as Fireman's Widow

GLOBE

In its general investigation of pensions paid to widows of firemen, the Finance Commission has discovered that Mrs Mary E. Reid, 1577 Columbus av, has received such an annuity of \$600 per year since January, 1921, besides receiving wages as a Park Department matron since December, 1920.

The commission's report to Mayor Curley quotes Chapter 32, Section 31, General Laws, which specifically forbids payment of a pension and wage or salary to any person, except under rare conditions.

The report recommends that the Mayor recover from City Auditing Department staff members the sum of the wages so paid Mrs Reid in this interval. Mrs Reid is the mother of two children. Appointed matron in the Peters term, she received pay at the rate of \$2.66 per day, two days a week, for the first year. In 1921 she was employed regularly at \$16 per week, and two years ago received a wage increase to \$20 per week.

Immediately the Finance Commission agents brought the case to the attention of City Auditor Carven, he reported to the Park Department, which had employed Mrs Reid as "Minnie Reid," and, it protested, could not know that "Minnie Reid" was Mrs Mary E. Reid, a city pensioner. This was on July 3, on which day Mrs Reid was dismissed from her post as matron.

CURLEY RAPS "FIN COM" FOR PICKING ON "A POOR WIDOW"

Charging the Finance Commission with "singling out" a "poor widow for attack because of a technical violation of the law," Mayor Curley, in a reply to the Finance Commission last evening, announced that he had ordered the name of Mary E. Reid of 1577 Columbus av, Roxbury, stricken from the roll of employees of the Park Department.

The Mayor also drew uncomplimentary parallels between the case of Mrs Reid, that of Chairman Sullivan of the commission and that of Representative Charles L. Carr, a member of the commission, both of whom he asked to resign one of the two posts they hold.

"It is most unfortunate," says the Mayor, "that a case of this character could not be disposed of without the publicity which has been given out by the Finance Commission. William R. Reid, the late husband of Mary E. Reid, was a faithful employee of the city of Boston, who died from injuries received in the performance of his duties.

"The death of William R. Reid left a widow with two dependent children. My predecessor in the office of Mayor did exactly as I would have done had the case been presented to me. Finding the widow unable to provide for herself and two children upon the pension of \$600 per year, received from the city in consequence of the death of her husband, she was provided part time employment, working two days each week. The faithful and efficient character of service rendered by her prompted the Park Department, after a period of service, to make her employment permanent."

Under the circumstances, says the Mayor, Mrs Reid "was surely entitled, with the two dependent children, to less harsh treatment than to be publicly branded for the commission of an act which now appears to be a technical violation of the law.

"I have been somewhat curious, personally, to learn why the Finance Commission has failed to give publicity to the fact that the chairman of the commission, Michael H. Sullivan, draws two salaries from the city treasury.

"The widow whose name in this case has been held up to public scrutiny worked two days each week at the beginning of her service with the city and for this service received \$2.66 each day. The chairman of the Finance Commission, who is supposed to devote his entire time to the duties of the office of chairman, receives a salary for this labor of \$5000 per annum, and in addition finds time to draw a second salary as associate justice of the Dorchester Court.

The incident, the Mayor continues, "calls attention to the unethical position of Charles L. Carr, who, while serving as a member of the Finance Commission, also serves as a member of the Massachusetts General Court. I have no personal objection to his acceptance of the salary which is paid by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for his service as a member of the General Court, but I believe the practice of serving as a member of an investigating body, which investigating body, under the law, is required annually to submit a report in writing to the Massachusetts Legislature, of which body he is also a member, is not only unethical but reprehensible.

"It would appear to me a proper procedure for the chairman of the Finance Commission to at once resign one of the two positions which he holds, because, after all, the position of the chairman of the Finance Commission is, in a sense, equivalent to that of the case of the widow; in other words, he is a pensioner of the Republican party, and kept on the pension roll as chairman of the Finance Commission at \$5000 a year because of the character of service rendered by him. It is the duty, in addition, of Charles L. Carr, to either resign from the Finance Commission or resign as a member of the General Court of Massachusetts."

JULY 11 1925 -

WANT MAYOR TO DROP COUSIN

"Fin Com" Claims Michael F.

Curley Not Doing Work

JULY 11 1925 GLOBE

Constable Michael F. Curley of the Street Laying-Out Department, a cousin of Mayor Curley's, is the subject of a Finance Commission complaint to His Honor this afternoon.

The commission's report charges that not only has Constable Curley not served a warrant in the past four years, so far as commission sleuths could ascertain, but that since November, 1920, Constable Curley has been employed as traffic manager for a downtown department store at a salary of \$48.70 per week.

The commission suggests to the Mayor that Constable Curley's name be stricken from the city payroll and that the Law Department be instructed to recover from Constable Curley the money paid to him by the city during the time he has rendered no service to the city. The commission sends a copy of the report to Dist Atty O'Brien.

The commission expresses the hope that its report on this and other Street Commission payroll cases will result in a revision of its entire payroll.

Constable Curley's salary from the city is \$1500, and the commission complains it has been "increased three times during Your Honor's present administration."

Mayor Curley wrote to Chairman Sullivan of the "Fin Com," acknowledging receipt of the report, and stated that he has referred the matter to the Street Commission for action.

Curley Denies Ally In School Contracts Has Ducked From Under

City hall heard today that Thomas T. Glynn, chairman of the schoolhouse commission, had resigned.

The report was about for several hours. Glynn was in his office for only a short time during the morning.

While his office refused to comment on the report and efforts to locate him were futile, Mayor Curley came through with a denial.

"I see no reason why Mr. Glynn should resign," the Mayor declared.

He added that Clarence H. Blackall, the third member of the schoolhouse commission, was now signing contracts and would continue to do so until "Mr. Mahar returns."

TRAVELER - JULY 11 1925

NINE SECRET INDICTMENTS IN COLLAPSE

JULY 11 1925

Grand Jury Reports Findings in Pickwick Club Probe

TRAVELER NOV

Nine secret indictments were returned today by the Suffolk county grand jury that has been investigating the Pickwick Club collapse, responsible for the deaths of 44 men and women.

VEIL OF SECRECY

A veil of secrecy was thrown about the identity of those indicted. Even the nature of the indictments was not revealed.

It was said at the district attorney's office that counsel for those named by the grand jury is being culpably concerned in the disaster would be notified to bring their clients into court to plead to the charges. The indictments were handed to Judge Lummus by the foreman of the jury.

After receiving the indictments Judge Lummus ordered court adjourned until later in the day, and the grand jury was dismissed until Monday.

HEARD 88 WITNESSES

The grand jury has been at work on the case since 9:30 Monday morning, being in session almost continuously. The inquiry into the collapse and the consequent deaths of 44 persons was the

construction Company, Inc., told newspaper men yesterday afternoon that he had been employed to renovate the roof of the Pickwick Club after the fire some days before the July 4 disaster.

On the Monday before the crash Goff said he noticed several places where the building bulged, saw beams sagging and observed that the centre wall on the top story was cracked from floor to ceiling.

"Everything up there was out of plumb," said Goff. He said he called the attention of Nathan Fritz to these matters several times but that Fritz said everything was all right and for him to go on with the work.

On July 1, Goff said, he asked Fritz to pay him off. He told the newspaper men he said to Fritz: "This building is going to fall and you know it. I want to get out." To this he said Fritz replied: "You're full of coke." Forget it and go back to work." Goff said he replied, "All right, if it goes down, I won't go down alone."

In consequence of Goff's story to the newspaper men, which was overheard by Albert Hurwitz and Albert A. Ginsberg, counsel for the estate of Albert R. Rosenthal, owners of the Pickwick Club property, Nathan Frink, head of the Frink Construction Company, Inc., was sent for.

DENIAL BY FRINK

Before he went to the grand jury, Frink told reporters and attorneys that he never made the statements attributed to him by Goff. He said that on the Friday before the collapse he discharged Goff.

Another to go before the grand jury late yesterday was Prof. George F. Swain of the Lawrence Scientific school at Harvard, who with Mark Lenenthal was engaged by the Rosenthal estate to examine the property in behalf of the estate. It was not necessary for Mr. Lenenthal to go before the grand jury.

During the latter part of the day Nathaniel Ginsberg, a co-administrator with Mrs. Fannie Rosenthal of the estate was called into the grand jury room, as were Guy Emerson and John O. DeWolf, engineers for Dist. Atty. O'Brien. Still others who were called in were Prof. Miller and Maj. Smith of Technology, who were employed by Mayor Curley to conduct investigations into the crash.

URGE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

Council Seeks Authority to Build, Lease or Operate One

HERALD LAW DEPARTMENT TO DRAFT ORDER AUG 6 1925

A preliminary step toward municipal ownership of a lighting plant was taken by the executive committee of the city council yesterday afternoon, when the members unanimously voted to request the law department to prepare an order giving the municipality authority "to construct, lease or operate a public lighting plant." The order will be referred back to the committee, which will then vote on its acceptance by the full council.

The meeting was specially called by Councillor James A. Watson, who offered the motion. It was finally seconded by Councillor James T. Moriarty. During a prolonged discussion, marked by interrogations of Assistant Corporation Counsel Joseph P. Lyons and Commissioner of Public Works O'Rourke, introduced as expert witnesses, it was brought out that under sect. 24, chap. 164 of the general laws, the city council has the right to initiate such action according to certain set procedure.

B2 POPULAR VOTE NECESSARY

Under the statutes the council must vote, by a two-thirds majority, to take over the lighting plant. The question then remains quiescent until the following year, when it must again be ordered by a similar majority. Then the question is referred to popular vote, and if accepted, the Edison Company must set a price on its plant within the city limits. If this price is not satisfactory to the city, it can be referred to the supreme court. But if the Edison Company refuses to sell at this point, the city is given the privilege of constructing a plant of its own which can be operated as a competitor of the privately owned concern.

The proceedings were interrupted to draw a venire, and to discuss the cost of city lighting by the Edison Company. Comr. O'Rourke told the committee that the city had a 10-year contract with the company which expired last year. Since that time the municipality has paid rates which were filed with the public utilities commission. He added that an unsuccessful attempt was made to renew the contract, and that the present rates exceed the former contract price by about \$91,000.

At this point Councillor John A. Donoghue suggested it would be an excellent idea for the city to refuse to purchase further electricity from the Edison Company as a protest against what he characterized as "excessive rates." When Comr. O'Rourke pointed out that this would mean dark streets, Councillor Donoghue retorted that aroused public opinion would force the corporation to reasonable terms.

There was some argument between various members of the committee as to whether public hearings should be held this year on the municipal ownership proposition. The matter was finally dropped after both sides had charged the other was playing politics in view of the coming elections.

PHONE PROTEST

TRAVELER IS AGITATED

AUG 14 1925 Sullivan Urges Merchants to Complain to Gov.

Fuller
AUG 14 1925

Corporation Counsel E. Mark Sullivan of Boston today addressed an appeal to shopkeepers and retail merchants of Massachusetts to organize in protest against the increase in telephone rates allowed by the public utilities commission. Householders, he pointed out, will not call the grocer, the butcher and the baker so often now as before the jump in rates, and this will mean a big loss of business to merchants.

Sullivan advised them to get together and make known their hardship to the Governor, so that he will compel the public utilities department to review its decision.

"Organize, merchants," he wrote. "The public service corporations are always organized and ready to protect their interests."

POST-JULY-11-1925

REPORT ON DISASTER IS DUE TODAY

K1 —
**Grand Jury Ends Its
Probe of Pickwick
Club Tragedy**

JULY 11 1925
**Ten Indictments in
Pickwick Club Likely**

It is believed that the grand jury has brought at least ten or perhaps a dozen indictments in connection with the investigation into the collapse of the building in which the Pickwick Club was located at 6 Beach street, where 44 persons lost their lives. The probe was to determine criminal responsibility for the disaster.

POST

After an investigation lasting five days, during which night sessions were held, the Suffolk County Grand Jury last night completed hearing evidence to fix the responsibility for the Pickwick Club disaster in Beach street, in which 44 lives were lost.

EXPECTED THIS MORNING

The jury deliberated on the evidence from 9 o'clock until 11:15 p. m. At that time the jury adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning, when it is expected that indictments will be returned.

District Attorney Thomas C. O'Brien and Assistant District Attorneys Maurice Caro, George Alpert and Charles Gaston Smith remained at the courthouse until early this morning.

K2
The final witnesses to go before the body were experts engaged by District Attorney O'Brien and Mayor Curley, who made a study of the foundations of the building in which the Pickwick Club was located.

All told, 14 witnesses were heard yesterday and last night. John J. Goff of 24 Ash street, South End, employed as a laborer by the Nathan Fritz Construction Co., Inc., was one of the witnesses late yesterday.

Goff told a sensational story to newspapermen before he went into the grand jury room. He declared that he was engaged, with other employees of the Nathan Fritz Construction Company, Inc., in putting a new roof on the Beach street building, following a fire in the Pickwick Club. He asserted that he had noticed, as late as July 1, a crack in one of the walls on the fourth floor of the building and that he called it to the attention of his employer.

Feared for Life K2

Goff, in his statement, asserted that the condition of the building could be seen at a glance, that he feared for his life in staying in the building and had gone to Fritz, demanding he be paid off.

"Fritz told me I was full of 'coke,' that everything was all right and for me to go back to work. When I could not get my money I returned to the job, but I was afraid that something would happen," Goff stated.

After Goff had appeared before the grand jury, Fritz appeared. To newspapermen Fritz denied that Goff had ever called his attention to the brick wall of the building being cracked, or that he had feared for the safety of himself and others working in the building.

Afraid of Timbers

"All he said to me was that he was afraid of some of the timbers on the roof," Fritz said. "He was afraid because some of the timbers had been burned by the fire. I told him it was all right, directing him to lay planks down before he went across the roof. Carpenters and others were working there and were not afraid and I could not see any reason why Goff should have been worried," Fritz asserted.

Witnesses Recalled

Some of the witnesses heard yesterday had previously appeared before the grand jury and were recalled. The list of those who appeared yesterday, in addition to Goff and Fritz, were:

Harry M. Haven, of Haven & Hopkins, architects of the garage to be erected on the land adjoining the Pickwick Club; Architect Kendall of the same concern; Thomas A. Elston, building wrecker engaged by the city to clear away the debris of the Pickwick Club after the collapse; Professor George F. Swain, Patrolman Frank Callahan of the LaGrange street station; Guy Emerson of the Finance Commission; Philip Cournoyer of New Hampshire, employed by the Nathan Fritz Construction Company, Inc.; Professor E. Miller of Technology, one of the experts engaged by Mayor Curley; John R. Lotz, engineer; Nathan Ginsberg, John O. DeWolfe, engineer, Erlon A. Bowman and William J. Curran.

HERALD - AUGUST 6 1925

Count Fails to See 'Hon.' Curley

HERALD
**Cippico, Roman Senator
and 'Soul of Beauty,'
Visits City Hall**

AUG 6 1925 Aug 6

A Roman senator is not an everyday visitor at city hall, and a Roman senator who is professor of English at the University of London is indeed a rarity, but nevertheless, when Count Cippico, accompanied by Lady Cippico, arrived there yesterday afternoon from the Williamstown conference, Mayor Curley was out and all diplomatic functions devolved on Standish Willcox.

Count and Lady Cippico arrived at the North Station at 3:10 P. M. from Williamstown, where the count has represented Italy at the deliberations. They came preceded by the following telegram, sent by Dr. Tehyl Hsieh, Chinese delegate to the Williamstown assembly:

"Sending greetings from Williamstown Institute of Politics, and salutations to Honorable Curley. Please arrange for Count and Lady Cippico to pay respects to mayor. Kindly show them around. If possible make visit to President Coolidge. They leave early today, Wednesday, accompanied by William Quinn and two Italian friends. Lady Cippico, Scotch, noble descent, linguist, loves America. Count a great poet, written four books, and lover of arts, great statesman of peace, soul of beauty."

"Honorable Curley" was not in when the count and countess arrived. The Italian nobleman is a member of the Roman senate and of the Royal Literary Society of Rome. Lady Cippico was formerly Miss Margaret McCollum Webster of Scotland, and was married to the count in 1902. The count is professor of English at the University of London.

POST - JULY 11-1925

INSISTS HE WAS FIRED BY CURLEY

Mahar Issues First Statement of the Situation

JUL 11 1925 POST

School Commissioner James J. Mahar, who has been absent from his office in City Hall Annex for more than a week, broke his silence for the first time last night and, in a signed statement sent to the Post, insists that he was verbally removed from his office by Mayor Curley on July 2, when the Mayor said to him at the end of a conference, "I remove you now," and further stated that Mahar would receive his written notification of such removal that night.

Mayor Curley, after Mr. Mahan's statement had been read to him over the telephone, still insisted that Mahar has not been removed and that he has no desire or intention to remove him.

Meanwhile the abstention of Commissioner Mahar, from his office has stopped the functioning of the Schoolhouse Commission. The Law Department holds that inasmuch as the present chairman, Thomas P. Glynn, was refused reappointment by the Civil Service Commission, the legality of his signature on schoolhouse contracts is questionable and have therefore declined to approve those contracts bearing his signature since his term officially expired June 1. The signature of the other two commissioners are held to be necessary.

The result is that millions of dollars of contracts for new school construction, for additions to schools, repairs and alterations have been held up. There are a stack of them in the offices of the law department and more stacks of them on the desks of the contract clerk in the offices of the Schoolhouse Commission, all awaiting the untangling of an unprecedented situation. The schoolhouse programs for this year contemplates some \$4,500,000 of new construction, \$1,500,000 of repairs and alteration, and a laying out for the future of some \$7,000,000 of new school buildings, while \$11,000,000 of work is in progress.

Refused to Sign

Commissioner Mahar has refused to sign these contracts, as acting chairman, holding that to do so would be not only illegal, but a violation of his oath of office as long as Mr. Glynn was still chairman.

The statement which Mr. Mahar sent to the Post last night which insisted that he was verbally removed by Mayor Curley but has not received any official notification of the fact, does not indicate in any way what his next step will be. A close friend of his stated last night that "the next move is up to the Mayor."

The statement which has been prepared after consultation with Herbert Parker, formerly attorney-general, Mr. Maher's counsel, reads:

"To the Editor of the Post:

"Sir—There has been so much of public discussion concerning my official status as a member of the schoolhouse commission and my relations with his Honor the Mayor in that regard, that, because of a natural public interest in the situation, I think I should make brief statement of the facts in the premises as known to me.

"On Thursday, July 2d, I was notified by Mr. Thomas P. Glynn to meet his honor the Mayor at the Mayor's office, to there consider the question as to the signature of contracts, bills, drafts, payrolls, and so forth, incident to the administration of the School House Commission. The question had previously been raised by the law department as to the legality of Mr. Glynn's signature to such documents as chairman of the board. At the conference at the Mayor's office, his Honor suggested that further conference was necessary and he so arranged for it to be held on the afternoon of July 2d.

Believed Action Illegal

"At this conference there were present, his Honor, the Mayor, the assistant corporation counsel, the city auditor, the chairman of the School House Commission and myself. While the conference was being held, there were also present in the room, the chairman of the Board of street Commissioners and another member of that board.

"The execution of contracts or other documents in behalf of the School House Commission was discussed at length, and it was held by all persons present and participating in the discussion, except myself, that I should sign such contracts as acting chairman of the Board of School House Commission.

"I held the opinion, and so stated, that I did not deem I had any lawful authority to so act when Mr. Glynn, the regular chairman of the board, was present. I believed, and so stated, that were I so to act in Mr. Glynn's presence, my action would be illegal and that I should be subject to the charge of having violated the requirements of my oath of office, and to have so acted illegally. I therefore firmly refused to act as so suggested.

"His Honor the Mayor then stated that the only way out of the difficulty would be for me to resign my position as School House Commissioner, which resignation he said he would immediately accept when presented. I replied that I knew of no reason for any such action on my part, since I had done nothing inconsistent with, or in violation of, my official duties or service; that I had held my position in the school house department for nearly 23 years, and that I could not re-

cede from the position I had taken, or resign, so indicating or implying any lack of fidelity in the performance of my duties.

Says Mayor Removed Him

"In answer to my statement in this regard, his Honor then declared, 'Then I remove you. I remove you now.' He further stated that I would receive my written notification of such removal that night.

"I have never since that time received from his Honor the Mayor, or from any other source, any written notice respecting such removal."

"Commissioner Maher's statement does not alter the status of the case," said Mayor Curley last night when the message was read to him over the telephone. "He has not been removed, as his communication shows, because, as he admits he has received no official notice of removal and no notice of removal has been filed with the city clerk as required by law.

"His statement does not indicate any intention on his part to resign, and I have received no letter of resignation from him. Commissioner Maher is simply laboring under a misapprehension.

"There is no desire or intention on my part to remove him. If he is desirous of tendering his resignation, of course he is at liberty to do so, but I hope he will not, as his work has been eminently satisfactory.

"Until I, as Mayor, receive a similar communication from Mr. Maher, as that sent to the Post, there is nothing more that I can say or do in the situation."

TRANSCRIPT - AUG 25-1925
BOSTON POLICE ENTERED
IN CAMP PERRY SHOOT

AUG 25 1925
MAYOR APPROVES SENDING OF
FIVE-MAN TEAM TO TAKE PART
IN OHIO CONTESTS

Because of the action of Mayor Curley in approving the request from Police Commissioner Wilson, the Boston police department, for the first time in its history, will be represented in the shoot at Camp Perry, N.Y.

Five men will make the trip at the expense of the city. The shoot, which opens on Aug. 30 and does not end until Sept. 20, is open to marksmen from all over the world and draws particularly from the various arms of service, with the exception of the Navy.

Captain Louis Lutz, drillmaster of the department, announced today that the men who will make the trip are Patrolman Andrew K. Adair of the Sears-street station, Patrolman John Crawford of the East Dedham-street station, Patrolman William H. Evans of the Back Bay division, Patrolman Edward J. Seibold of the Charlestown station and Sergeant Thomas S. J. Cavanaugh, assistant drillmaster of the department.

The first three named will shoot as members of the Massachusetts State civilian rifle team and then, with the other two, will represent the Boston police department in the revolver contests.

HERALD - JULY 11 1925

MAHAR CHARGES HE WAS OUSTED

School House Commissioner Says Mayor Removed Him Verbally

JULY 11 1925
CURLEY REPLIES AND DENIES STATEMENT

HERALD

School House Commissioner

James J. Mahar, who has been missing for more than a week from City Hall, ever since the report he had been discharged by Mayor Curley, broke his silence last night with a statement in which he revealed he was under the impression he was discharged.

Repeating the words with which Mayor Curley had apparently removed him, because he flatly refused to sign certain contracts and otherwise act in place of Chairman Thomas P. Glynn of the commission, whose legal status was in question, Mahar added he had never received the formal written notice of his removal, which the mayor told him he would send that night, July 2.

MAYOR DENIES REMOVAL

Mayor Curley, reached at his summer home, Hull, last night, and apprised of Mahar's statement, replied that the latter did not alter the situation and suggested Mahar must be laboring under a "misapprehension," as he, the mayor, had "no intention or desire to remove him."

As a result of this controversy contracts are piling up on the schoolhouse commissioner's desk and in the law department and millions of dollars' worth of schoolhouse construction is thereby being delayed.

The trouble arises from the mayor's desire to continue in office Chairman Glynn, after his failure to be confirmed by the civil service commission. Glynn is holding over in office, the mayor refusing to name a successor.

Glynn has been drawing his salary, but the city law department has expressed grave doubts as whether any contracts he might sign would be legal. When the law departments questioned the legality of his signature on these contracts, Glynn and the mayor requested Mahar to sign them. Mahar refused, stating he had no right to when Chairman Glynn was present and that it would constitute violation of his oath of office.

According to Mahar the mayor then requested him to resign and when Mahar refused, the mayor informed him "You are removed," the mayor adding he would send him a formal statement to that effect that evening. The formal statement, says Mahar, was never received.

The only information he has received since the mayor verbally discharged him, states Mahar, was statements by the mayor published in the newspapers to the effect he had not discharged Mahar, nor had Mahar resigned.

Just what will happen in this controversy is uncertain. Each side has apparently put it up to the other to make the next move. Mahar, however, has retained former Atty.-Gen. Herbert Parker to look after his interests, and

the statement here published was made with the attorney's advice. Neither Mahar nor the mayor, however, will state what move he will make next, Mahar refusing to amplify his statement and the mayor declaring the situation unaltered.

MAHAR'S STATEMENT

Mahar's statement in full is as follows:

"There has been so much of public discussion concerning my official status as a member of the school house commission and my relations with his honor the mayor in that regard, that, because of a natural public interest in the situation, I think I should make brief statement of the facts in the premises as known to me.

"On Thursday, July 2, I was notified by Mr. Thomas P. Glynn to meet his honor the mayor at the mayor's office, to there consider the question as to the signature of contracts, bills, drafts, payrolls, and so forth, incident to the administration of the school house commission. The question had previously been raised by the law department as to the legality of Mr. Glynn's signature to such documents as chairman of the board. At the conference at the mayor's office, his honor suggested that further conference was necessary and he so arranged for it to be held on the afternoon of July 2.

CONFERENCE MEMBERS

"At this conference there were present his honor the mayor, the assistant corporation counsel, the city auditor, the chairman of the school house commission, and myself. While the conference was being held, there were also present in the room, the chairman of the board of street commissioners and another member of that board.

"The execution of contracts and other documents in behalf of the school house commission was discussed at length, and it was held by all persons present and participating in the discussion, except myself, that I should sign such contracts as acting chairman of the board of school house commission. I held to the opinion, and so stated, that I did not deem I had any lawful authority to so act when Mr. Glynn, the regular chairman of the board, was present. I believed, and so stated, that were I to so act in Mr. Glynn's presence, my action would be illegal and that I should be subject to the charge of having violated the requirements of my oath of office, and to have so acted illegally. I therefore firmly refused to act as so suggested.

"His honor the mayor then stated

that the only way out of the difficulty would be for me to resign my position as school house commissioner, which resignation he said he would immediately accept when presented. I replied that I knew of no reason for any such action on my part, since I had done nothing inconsistent with, or in violation of, my official duties or service; that I had held my position in the school house department for nearly 23 years, and that I could not recede from the position that I had taken, or resign, so indicating or implying any lack of fidelity in the performance of my duties.

REMOVED BY MAYOR

"In answer to my statement in this regard, his honor then declared, 'Then I remove you. I remove you now.' He further stated that I would receive my written notification of such removal that night.

"I have never since that time received from his honor the mayor, or from any other source, any written notice respecting such removal.

(Signed) "JAMES J. MAHAR."

The mayor stated:

"School House Commissioner Mahar's statement does not alter the state of the case. It shows he has not been removed, because notice of the removal would have to be filed with the city clerk. Mr. Mahar must be laboring under a misapprehension. There is no desire or intention on my part to remove him. If he desires to tender his resignation, of course he has that liberty to do so, but I sincerely hope that he will not, as his work has been eminently satisfactory.

"Until such time as I receive from him a similar communication to that which Mr. Mahar has sent to the newspapers, there is nothing more that I can say or do in the situation."

GLOBE - AUG 25 1925

MAYOR TELLS JOHN'S VIEWS

GLOBE
Latter Confident of Beating

Candidates Named

AUG 25 1925

"Have you talked with your brother about the story that he is a candidate for Mayor?" asked one of the newspapermen today at their daily conference with Mayor Curley, at City Hall.

"Yes," replied the Mayor, "I had a little chat with him yesterday and he seemed to think that he would experience no difficulty in defeating any candidate thus far mentioned." The Mayor puckered his lips a bit as he told of his brother's confidence.

When the reporters sought out John Curley at the office of the City Treasurer to ask him what he had to say, if anything, they learned that he was attending the biennial convention of the A. O. H. at Holyoke.

C-40 B/E - JU44-25-1921

HAS NO REPORT ON PICKWICK FIRE

Mahony Testifies as to

Building Inspection

GLOBE
Commissioner Tells of Permit
to Underpin Wall That Fell

JUL 25 1925

Employees Describe Crash
That Took 44 Lives

If Building Inspector James J. Hendricks made a report on the condition of the Pickwick Club building following the fire on April 13, and filed it before April 30, Building Commissioner Mahony doesn't know where it is, and his search of the files has failed to disclose it.

Mr Mahony testified to this yesterday afternoon in the trial of 12 men, 10 of whom are accused of manslaughter by causing the death of Policeman Paul F. Halloran, killed when the Pickwick Club building collapsed on July 4.

Asst Dist Atty Alpert put in evidence two applications for permits for alterations on the building, one dated April 21 and the other May 12. The first one was for restoring the building as nearly as possible to its condition before the fire. It carried a recommendation that the stairway be changed, and enclosed in a wire lath and plaster partition, and that the brick wall be taken out above the second story of the building. This application was endorsed by Inspector Hendricks, who signed the statement that he had inspected the building and found the conditions were as represented in the application.

Permit to Strengthen Wall

The second application was that of Lawrence Perkins, for a permit to put a concrete underpinning under the east wall of the building, the wall which collapsed. This application was also granted. It was accompanied by a plan of the proposed work, which was offered but had not been received in evidence when court rose for the day.

Mr Alpert spent some time with Mr Mahony asking as to the duties of a building commissioner and more particularly as to the duties of a building inspector. The building law and the

requirements for reports on the results of fires on the conditions of buildings was placed in evidence.

The session began with the examination of the orchestra leader, a walter and the porter, as to the events immediately preceding the collapse of the building. William Glennon, the manager and the brother of the floor man-

ager of the club, said the dance area was about 15 by 30 or 35 feet. On the night of July 3, he thought, there were 40 tables in the room. He believed there were 100 to 125 people in the club during the evening, but that not all of them were there when the building fell. Not more than eight or 10 couples were dancing in that last dance before the lights went out and the floors came crashing in.

missioner, makes decisions as to the law, confers with contractors and architects, and settles disputes. He assigns concrete inspectors, studies new materials which are constantly being offered, and goes to New York with the commissioner to test new materials under fire and water tests in the Columbia laboratory. He appears at hearings, and takes the commissioner's place when the latter attends the conventions which are his only vacations. When this happens, Mr Mahony deputizes Mr Roemer.

What Hendricks Did

"Have you at various times referred to him as chief building inspector?" Asst Dist Atty Alpert asked.

"I may have, to people who would not understand the meaning of supervisor of construction."

"Do any of Mr Roemer's duties refer to the inspection of buildings by him?" "Why, yes, the examination of rails." "Is there anything else?" asked the court.

"Yes—he may at any time go with the inspectors and that is one of his duties."

"Who besides Mr Roemer has the duty of inspecting the construction, alteration and repairs on buildings?" asked Mr Alpert.

"The field inspectors; there are 15 of them. The inspector on Beach st is James F. Hendricks."

"What are his duties?"

Mr O'Connell objected, that the duties are clearly defined by statute.

"You may inquire as to the work Mr Hendricks did," said Judge Lummus. Mr Alpert did so.

"He inspects buildings, for alterations or new construction, as to their conforming to the statute and to the plans approved by the department."

"Does he inspect building inside as well as outside?"

"Yes."

Mr O'Connell objected to each question, but the court permitted the inquiry to go on.

"How does the building inspector go about his work?" asked Mr Alpert.

There was more objection, several attorneys, and Mr Alpert named his questions.

Reports as to Fires

"Does he act only on instructions from the commissioner, or on his own initiative?"

"We don't issue instructions to every inspector every day on every job. He examines the applications he has; they are sent to him from the applications department."

"Everything in his district is turned over to Mr Roemer? What does he do?" inquired Mr Alpert.

"He doesn't get elevator, egress or sprinkler applications."

"Suppose there is a fire in his district; what would he do?"

"Nothing, until he got some application for repairs and the report from the Fire Department."

Every point was objected to, but Judge Lummus asked:

"Is it customary to have notifications of fires from the Fire Department given to the inspector?"

"Sometimes, but it may be some time later."

"Suppose there was a fire on May 1?" said Mr Alpert.

"Within a day or two the inspector would receive a blue slip, telling the origin, cause and the approximate money loss as adjusted by the insurance companies."

Applications for Repairs

"Suppose the report came in that the building was badly damaged by fire?"

This time it was attorney John P. Feeney who objected.

"You are going to introduce the new building law, the special law?" said the judge.

"Yes," said Mr Alpert, and offered the law as evidence. Then the witness pointed out that the book, of which every attorney has a copy, is not a verbatim copy of the law. It was verbatim all but the headings.

Mr Mahony said the Pickwick Club building was erected prior to 1871; there is no plan of the construction in the office.

"Have you any record as to an application to make repairs in the building after April 13?"

"There is one on April 21, she says, on May 12."

Cont. cont. #1
MWT

JULY 25 - 1925

"Have you the report made in that application?"

A photostatic copy was produced.

The commissioner knew of no other report from Mr. Hendricks as to the condition of the building at 6-12 Beach st.

Permit Indorsed by Hendricks

In the afternoon, the application for a permit to make repairs on the Pickwick Club building after the fire of April 13 was again offered in evidence by the district attorney. The defense attorneys all crowded up to the bench to state their objections to its admission. Judge Lumagus admitted "the application and report," and the defendants promptly took exceptions.

Mr. Alpert read the application dated April 21, for alterations to the Pickwick Club building. It showed the building 40 feet 6 inches with walls one foot thick. It was used for manufacturing and commercial purposes.

The report said: "The building has been badly destroyed by fire and it is intended to restore it as nearly as possible to its original condition. It is to be used as formerly."

The permit was granted June 24.

The application was indorsed by J. F. Hendricks, with the statement that he had inspected the building and found the conditions as described.

Found No Report on Section 3

The next exhibit was the "inspector's synopsis." There was a note: "Question on egress. Recommend that the brick wall above second floor be removed, that front stairs be changed and enclosed in wire lath and plaster partition, first floor to roof."

Building Commissioner Mahony said there had been two previous applications on this building, one for an elevator well and the other for a change in the staircase. These were both accompanied by plans.

"Was any report filed after the fire by Mr. Hendricks, setting forth the matter covered in Section 3 of the building law?"

"I wasn't able to find any."

"Before granting a permit for alterations, is it the duty of your department to get information as to the use to which a building has been put and to which it is to be put after alterations?"

"Both are supposed to be stated in the application."

Another application for a permit was now put in. This was the one put in by Lawrence Perkins as mechanic, to be allowed to put in underpinnings under the east wall of the building. The permit was granted on May 14.

There was a plan showing the proposed work, which was filed with the application, and this also was offered.

Adjournment to Monday.

Printed Three Days Before

"The mail having been sent forward in conformity with the meter-rate system and the time of mailing having been verified by two of the Postoffice employees, further investigation reveals the fact that large quantities of the pamphlets containing the new rate schedules were printed at the office of the Courier-Citizen at Lowell and were in the hands of the compositors upon Tuesday, July 28th, rather strengthens the opinion that the schedules upon which the new rates were based in conformity with the recommendation of the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission were established by the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company at least one week prior to the announcement by the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission of the increases in rates approved by them.

"Under the circumstances it is not unreasonable to believe that the report

made public by the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission two days after the new rate schedule adopted in conformity with the report of the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission may have been written by the attorneys for the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. In the event that upon investigation the statements here made are substantiated and it can be proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the report of the Massachusetts Public Utilities Commission was actually compiled by the attorneys for the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, it would not appear unreasonable to me to press my former request for the removal of the commission and for the appointment of a new commission with a rehearing of the entire case.

PRES JONES MAKES FLAT DENIAL OF CURLEY CHARGE

Taking exception to the statement attributed to Mayor Curley, Pres Matthew B. Jones of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company said last night:

"The statement before the Mayors' Club, attributed by the evening papers to Mayor Curley, to the effect that the telephone company had advance information of the decision of the Department of Public Utilities in the rate case, is false in every particular. The company received its first information as to the terms of the decision at 9:30 in the morning of Friday, July 31, when copies of the decision were handed to representatives of the company and the press.

"At 2:30 p m Asst Vice Pres Clarence G. McDavid and Division Commercial Supt Harry H. Carter handed the decision to Harold W. Worthley of the commercial staff. Mr. Worthley at once began the supervision of checking and correcting the proposed schedule of rates to conform with the modification ordered by the Department. This work was completed about 9:30 p m.

"Copy for the rate circulars, for subscribers, was given to Wright & Potter, Boston printers, at 10:00 p m by Publicity Manager B. A. Smalley and Advertising Manager H. V. Bicknell, who were accompanied by Mr. Worthley.

"There was no delivery of circulars to any of our offices for mailing, earlier than 4:15 a m, Sunday morning, August 2. There was no mailing, anywhere, before noon on Sunday, August 2."

BOARD HAS GIVEN ADVANCE NOTICE TO CORPORATIONS

No communication had reached the Governor's office from Mayor Curley when the office was closed for the day at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

At the office of the Public Utilities Commission it was stated that Commissioner David A. Ellis was the only member in town and he had left early. None of the employes would comment on the charges of Mayor Curley that the commission had given out in advance its decision on the petition of the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company for authority to increase its rates.

It was learned on excellent authority, however, that the commission has on a number of occasions notified a corporation of its finding before making its reasons public. It was explained that when changes have been ordered for a certain date various corporations, including street railways, have been given notice a day or two in advance in order to prepare printed matter or make other plans for a new rate. The custom is not a new one, and has been followed for the convenience of the public, it is affected. Whether it was adopted in the present instance could not be definitely learned.

COMMISSIONER ELLIS DECLINES TO COMMENT

Public Utilities Commissioner David A. Ellis, when informed last night of Mayor Curley's charge regarding the premature printing of the new telephone rate schedules, said that, in view of the fact that the commission is a judicial body, no comment from him upon the Mayor's assertion would be fitting. None of the other members of the commission could be reached last night.

MAYOR'S PEACE PLAN REJECTED

Builders Adhere to Scheme for Arbitration on

April 6, 1926

STATE BOARD MAY TAKE HAND TODAY

JULY 31 1925

The board of councillors of the Building Trades Employers' Association, at a special meeting at the City Club, yesterday afternoon, rejected Mayor Curley's "peace plan" for averting a threatened general strike in support of the laborers in their request for immediate arbitration of their demands for increased wages.

The mayor's plan called for the creation of a board of seven, three to be named by the employers, three by the employes and the seventh to be named by President Coolidge, to determine whether the laborers are entitled, under the "peace pact" agreements, to immediate arbitration of their demands for increased wages.

MEN ACCEPTED

The plan was put forward by the mayor at a conference Monday, between representatives of the United Building Trades Council and the Building Trades' Employers. It was accepted by the men's representatives. The employers' representatives agreed to place it before its board of councillors for consideration.

This was done yesterday, and, although Secretary John F. Walsh and the builder's group refused to disclose the action taken by the board, on the ground that it must be reported to the mayor today, it was learned that the board rejected the proposition and were a unit for adhering strictly to the "peace pact" agreements by which the laborer will be given the same opportunity afforded the other trades for arbitration on wages April 1, 1926, if they become signatories to the plan.

In accepting the mayor's proposition last Monday, the adjustment board of the United Building Trades Council deferred action towards setting a date for the general strike to begin. It was scheduled for last Tuesday.

Rumor had it last night that the state board of conciliation and arbitration will step into the situation today. The board was prepared to extend its services some weeks ago until it learned that federal conciliators were acting in the matter, when it withdrew its offer with the understanding that "it reserved the right to step in."